



US House California District 7

HOW TO USE THE AARP VOTERS' GUIDE:

AARP produced this guide to help you find out what candidates are saying about health and financial security in their own words.

HAVING TROUBLE CUTTING THROUGH THE POLITICAL CAMPAIGN CLUTTER?

AARP is committed to helping you get the facts you need to choose candidates who reflect your views and values. We are nonpartisan – we don't support or oppose any political candidates or contribute any money to campaigns or political action committees. Our priority is ensuring you know where the candidates stand before you cast your vote.



aarp.org/yourvote

Social Security

How would you protect Social Security for today's seniors and strengthen it for future generations?

AARP's Position:

Social Security should continue to guarantee that Americans who work and pay into the system receive benefits based on what they earn and contribute. Benefits should keep up with inflation and last for as long as an individual lives. We must strengthen Social Security for the future and protect benefits for people who count on them most, including surviving spouses and families, lower-wage workers, and disabled individuals who no longer can work. Social Security must be put on stable financial ground, but any adjustments should be implemented gradually so changes do not impact those in or near retirement.

Ami Bera (Dem):

A Social Security system that continues to protect millions of Americans, of every age, from poverty. We must do more to protect this vital program – which is why I've signed a pledge to protect Social Security, and fight all efforts to privatize this program and gamble with our future in the stock market. Protecting Social Security also means keeping government's hands off of the Social Security Trust Fund – instead of borrowing against our children, we can reduce our deficit by closing tax loopholes for corporations and the rich and streamlining government. (Source: Political Guide, <http://ow.ly/bQkoo>)

Doug A. Ose (Rep):

I oppose any proposal to privatize Social Security. Seniors need to be assured that their retirement savings and Medicare are secure. They've earned it. (Source: Sacramento County Sample Ballot, <http://ow.ly/xNNU>)

Medicare

How would you put Medicare on stronger financial ground and protect today's seniors and future retirees from rising health costs?

AARP's Position:

Medicare should be strengthened and improved so both current and future generations can count on having access to high-quality, affordable coverage. Medicare should continue to guarantee a specific set of benefits that are affordable and meet a person's health care needs. Medicare should offer choices that ensure access to high-quality health care. Medicare should improve the quality, safety, and efficiency of care by emphasizing value and cracking down on fraud, waste, and abuse.

Ami Bera (Dem):

Medicare has, for decades, acted as a foundation of our nation's social safety net, providing the assurance of care to aging Americans and establishing the financial security necessary for a strong and prosperous economy. As a physician, I've seen firsthand how successful this program has been, but we must do more to address Medicare's long term solvency by eliminating fraud and abuse, standing up to pharmaceutical companies to reduce the costs of prescription drugs, and ensure that Medicare remains portable and accessible for beneficiaries. (Source: Smart Voter, <http://ow.ly/y5PMc>)

Doug A. Ose (Rep):

I oppose any proposal to privatize Social Security. Seniors need to be assured that their retirement savings and Medicare are secure. They've earned it. (Source: Sacramento County Sample Ballot, <http://ow.ly/xNNU>)

Financial Security

How would you help Americans save so they can secure their future and live independently as they age?

AARP's Position:

More opportunities and incentives should be available for all Americans to plan and save so they can have a more secure future. Freedom from age discrimination is a fundamental right and critical to Americans' ability to have a secure retirement. Every worker should be treated fairly, regardless of age. We need to support family caregivers who make it possible for more seniors to live in their homes and communities, where they want, rather than taxpayers and struggling families paying for costlier care.

Ami Bera (Dem):

[...]we need to take steps to empower small businesses...In today's economy, small businesses employ over half of America's workers, create nearly two-thirds of all new jobs, and are responsible for over 97% of all exported goods...Our economic policy needs to better reflect the central role of small firms to our nation's economic health. This means improving access to capital; extending small business R&D tax credits for the long-term; instituting fairer and simpler tax codes for small businesses to compete at home and abroad; and reforming our healthcare system to allay debilitating costs. (Source: Ami Bera Website, <http://ow.ly/bQjWo>)

Doug A. Ose (Rep):

Our economy is stalled by sluggish growth and a slow recovery. It isn't providing enough opportunity for Americans who need a job, expand their business or hire more workers. Full time employment is harder to find, and employers are shifting to more part-time workers. Financial security can only be achieved by allowing Americans to keep more of their hard-earned money, so they can provide for their healthcare, higher education, retirement savings, or local business. I know the importance of supporting tax credits that allow businesses to invest in new hiring, as well as new equipment, technology, and alternative energy. (Source: Ose for Congress, <http://ow.ly/xNNGB>)



After years of working hard and paying into the system, AARP believes you've earned the right to know where the candidates stand on the issues that matter to you and your family. This Voters' Guide will help you find out where the candidates stand on health and financial security in their own words, so you can decide which candidate best reflects your views and values.

To find out more about these issues and voting information, please visit aarp.org/yourvote.

Voter Information Inside

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