



## **US House California District 10**

#### **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.



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## **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.

#### Jeff Denham (Rep):

The primary budget-breakers are mandatory spending programs such as Medicaid, Medicare and Social Security and reforms of these programs must be on the table in any further budget discussions. (Source: Jeff Denham Website, http://goo.gl/agnYPz)

#### Michael R. Eggman (Dem):

I will never vote to balance our budget on the backs of our seniors. Our seniors have worked hard for decades, building the country we enjoy today and paying into Medicare and Social Security so that they could retire with dignity and security. They kept up their end of the deal. Now it's our responsibility to do the same[...] Social Security makes up more than 50% of income for most of our seniors. I'll oppose any risky schemes to privatize Social Security, and I'll vote against any budget – whether it originates from a Republican or a Democrat that makes cuts to Social Security. (Source: Eggman for Congress, http://ow.ly/xFjev)

### **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.

#### Jeff Denham (Rep):

Social Security and Medicare were both issues of concern brought up, and both were referenced by Denham as going broke. Denham stated that Social Security reform hasn't really been addressed as it should be due to the fact that things like Medicare have taken priority. Denham pointed out that the[...]healthcare plan took \$500 billion out of Medicare and accelerated the rate at which Medicare would go broke if not reformed. One proposed reform would be that no change would occur for those 55 and older but anyone younger would pay more. (Source: TurlockCityNews.com, http://ow.ly/bRU3y)

#### Michael R. Eggman (Dem):

Medicare provides our seniors with the health care they need and deserve. I will stand up to politicians who want to play games with Medicare and turn it into a voucher system. Instead, let's strengthen Medicare by eliminating duplication, waste, and fraud, and let's allow Medicare to negotiate prescription drug prices, which will reduce the cost to taxpayers and seniors. (Source: Eggman for Congress, http://ow.ly/xFjev)

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### **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.

#### Jeff Denham (Rep):

We must focus on the viability of small businesses in the Central Valley through pro growth policies that reduce the burdens place on small businesses by the federal government. This means lowering taxes for small businesses, decreasing intrusive federal regulation that stymies innovation, and limiting government spending that distorts the marketplace... Together, taxes and government regulation were the most often cited impediments to business growth. I will continue to fight in Congress to reduce regulatory barriers to success, keep your taxes low, and lay the groundwork for economic recovery. (Source: Jeff Denham Website, http://ow.ly/bRNBp)

#### Michael R. Eggman (Dem):

We should extend tax credits to small businesses that hire new workers and we should expand the Small Business Administration loan programs to give growing businesses the access to capital they need to succeed. Let's grow the economy home, not ship jobs overseas. One common sense step we can do right away is end tax giveaways for businesses that send American jobs overseas. And when awarding government tax dollars, let's make sure to always give preference to companies that are hiring workers at home. A cleaner, simpler tax code will reduce waste and corruption and allow small businesses to compete on a level playing field. (Source: Eggman for Congress, http://ow.ly/xFjEm)



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**



