



## US House California District 17

### **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](https://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.

### **Mike Honda (Dem):**

While changes are necessary to guarantee Social Security's long-term solvency, reform should not be used as an excuse to decimate a program that has ensured a secure and independent retirement for millions of Americans...I want to save, strengthen, and secure Social Security for generations to come[...] Social Security needs a solid source of funding, not a plan that makes the problem worse by...endangering the retirement benefits of millions of deserving Americans. It is vital that all seniors and people with disabilities have a benefit that they can count on during their retirement years. (Source: Mike Honda Website, <http://goo.gl/Xi1xwX>)

### **Rohit Khanna (Dem):**

Protecting Social Security is more than just politics. I believe that seniors deserve the dignity of a secure retirement. I will not support any plan that increases the retirement age. I disagree with the proposal to move the system toward the chained C.P.I. That change would reduce benefits for current recipients, which I oppose. I propose eliminating the current payroll tax cap for incomes above \$250,000. Middle class families in the Bay Area working two jobs, struggling to pay their mortgage or to send kids to college are not to be subject to a harmful tax increase. (Source:Ro Khanna for Congress, <http://ow.ly/xFMGa>)

---

## **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.

### **Mike Honda (Dem):**

Congress must act quickly to ensure the long-term viability and solvency of Medicare. Mike Honda feels that the Social Security Trust Fund must be protected, especially in the face of increased government spending. As a member of the Budget Committee, Mike has resisted these attempts to raid the fund. Mike feels that our seniors deserve the highest standard of care possible, and that Medicare must be maintained in order to accomplish this. (Source:Voter Guide, <http://ow.ly/y5UPo>)

### **Rohit Khanna (Dem):**

Estimates show that if Medicare were allowed to negotiate directly with prescription drug manufacturers, savings could total up to \$541.3 billion over the next decade. Congress should immediately change the law to allow them to do so. But Americans should know how their public funds are being spent. Releasing payment data would increase the transparency of the system, allowing members of the public – including journalists – to be watchdogs over fraud and improper payments, potentially saving significant amounts of money in the Medicare program. (Source:Ro Khanna for Congress, <http://ow.ly/xFMGa>)

## **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.

### **Mike Honda (Dem):**

I am working to secure pension benefits, make it easier for workers to save for retirement by enhancing and strengthening investment vehicles like 401(k)s and IRA plans, and to provide clear information on retirement investment options. Combining that approach with a secure and stable Social Security safety net will give American retirees greater certainty in the years to come. (Source: Mike Honda Website, <http://goo.gl/Xi1xwX>)

### **Rohit Khanna (Dem):**

It's critical that benefits keep up with the rising cost of living. Unfortunately, many seniors are struggling to make ends meet. Seniors have told me about having to forgo medications because they can't afford them. When I am in Congress, I will work to make sure that the Social Security and Medicare benefits promised to our current and future seniors will not be reduced. Even as we work to ensure the long-term financing of Social Security and Medicare, it is not fair to change the rules on those who paid into those programs, expecting the benefits to see them through their retirement. (Source:Ro Khanna for Congress, <http://ow.ly/xFMGa>)



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](http://aarp.org/yourvote).

## Voter Information Inside

NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
AARP

601 E Street NW  
Washington, DC 20049

