



# **US House California District 20**

#### **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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### 2014 AARP Voters' Guide | US House California District 20

## **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.

#### Sam Farr (Dem):

"The lingering effects of the worst economy since the Great Depression mean Americans who need Social Security to survive can't afford to make ends meet," said Rep. Sam Farr. "For that reason, I will join my colleagues in taking quick action to enact a one-time \$250 payment to seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities who receive Social Security—to help them through this tough time, when housing values are down, other retirement income is volatile, and many are facing rising expenses." (Source: Rep. Farr's Congressional Website, http://ow.ly/xFRGi)

#### Ronald P. Kabat (I):

AARP did extensive research but was unable to find any public statement on this issue by July 11, 2014.

## **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.

### Sam Farr (Dem):

"We face a shortage of doctors...because of unfair Medicare payment rates". "Farr's GPCI Fix would require the reimbursement formula to be calculated based on Metropolitan Statistical Areas which better reflect the cost of practicing medicine. The higher payments would be phased in over a six year period starting in 2017. "California Medicare patients should have access to quality healthcare and doctors in every county should be fairly reimbursed for providing that care". "I look forward to working with my colleagues in the Senate to restore that link." (Source: Rep. Farr's Congressional Website, http://ow.ly/xFRUK)

### Ronald P. Kabat (I):

AARP did extensive research but was unable to find any public statement on this issue by July 11, 2014.

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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.

### Sam Farr (Dem):

"We need to make sure we do not leave seniors behind as we begin this economic recovery, and the Seniors Protection Act plays a critical role in ensuring that seniors also see the light at the end of the tunnel. I want to thank the House leadership for their commitment to advancing this legislation, which will assist 54 million recipients struggling to stay afloat." (Source: Rep. Farr's Congressional Website, http://ow.ly/xFRGi)

#### Ronald P. Kabat (I):

AARP did extensive research but was unable to find any public statement on this issue by July 11, 2014.



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**



