



## **US House California District 42**

#### 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.

#### Ken Calvert (Rep):

Some plans seek to create voluntary individual retirement accounts to replace the current system, and others would retain part of the current system while adding individual accounts. I believe that younger Americans who want to move towards higher yield investments should have that option as long as today's seniors and near seniors will not be affected by such a transition. I do not support the government investing Social Security funds in the stock market and I will never support legislation that would change current retirees' benefits. (Source: Calvert Website, http://ow.ly/c48i8)

#### Timothy J. Sheridan (Dem):

Protect Social Security benefits for seniors and those entitled to the program. Source: Tim Seridan Campaign Website, http://ow.ly/xHKUQ)

### **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.

#### Ken Calvert (Rep):

Ensuring Medicare's solvency, Congress must work to ensure that America's Medicare beneficiaries have access to the broadest and best network of physicians possible[...] has enacted several "Doc Fixes" to protect Medicare beneficiaries' access to physician care and prevent draconian cuts to physician reimbursements[...]I believe the time has come for Congress to fully address the issue of the Sustainable Growth Rate formula (SGR), upon which payments to physicians by the federal government are based[...] I voted against nearly \$500 billion in cuts to Medicare[...]I will continue to fight these deep cuts to vital Medicare services. (Source: Calvert Website, http://ow.ly/c48i8)

#### Timothy J. Sheridan (Dem):

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:**

#### Ken Calvert (Rep):

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.

We need to help the private sector create jobs by reversing policies that threaten them. Higher taxes, cap-and-trade regulations, health care fines and regulations, out of control spending and huge debt burdens, all give employers a reason to worry before they decide to expand their workforce. I believe we must cut taxes for families and businesses, cut federal spending and focus our limited spending on real infrastructure projects that put people to work today and improve all our lives tomorrow. (Source: Calvert Website; http://ow.ly/c47Qn)

#### Timothy J. Sheridan (Dem):

America has fought for a robust middle class. For our country to prosper, we must have a progressive tax system that allows for investment in our economy and supports middle income earners. All Americans can retire with dignity, but also for all Americans to have the opportunity to prosper throughout their careers. The middle class deserves a progressive tax code that gives cuts to those who need it most, but makes sure America's wealthiest pay their fair share. In 2010, we fought against the president's compromise to extend the Bush Tax cuts, and we are currently fighting to let the Bush Tax Cuts expire. (Source: Democracy for America, http://ow.ly/xQXZx)



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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