



US House California District 43

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.

Maxine Waters (Dem):

[...] We cannot cut our way out of a deficit. The first thing that we've got to do is look at where we have unfairness in the tax system and make sure billionaires and millionaires and the corporate interests are paying their fair share. I believe that whether we're talking about the financial speculation tax or the elimination of the carried interest or defense spending, we've got areas that we could look at to get fair share so that we're able to take care of the basic needs of this country rather than going to Medicare and Medicaid and Social Security and focusing on those areas as the only place that we can get more revenue. (Source: Town Hall, <http://ow.ly/xOoau>)

John Wood Jr. (Rep):

By transitioning into a system of optional personalization of Social Security accounts and optional adoption of Health Savings Accounts in place of traditional Medicare we accomplish increased long term security for S.S. recipients and reduced Medicare costs (and general healthcare premiums) for beneficiaries (and all those in need of health care). Diversification of revenue streams to increase funding by safeguarding Social Security funds and by using the growth of personal accounts to help fund the programs, we can ensure the guarantees of these programs even in times when market growth recedes. (Source: Wood for Congress, <http://ow.ly/xHOH9>)

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.

Maxine Waters (Dem):

I am proud of the creation of Medicare[...] I will always vote to protect it. Democrats have often enacted legislation to expand Medicare benefits and extend Medicare's solvency. Last year, Democrats passed the Affordable Care Act, which provided free preventive health services to Medicare beneficiaries and extended Medicare's solvency for an additional eight years. I will continue to work with my colleagues to protect Medicare so that it will always be there for current and future generations of seniors. (Source: Rep. Water's Congressional Website, <http://ow.ly/xHNFG>)

John Wood Jr. (Rep):

Incentivize adoption of Health Savings Accounts, either through tax credits or through allowing the use of an H.S.A. to satisfy the requirement of the individual mandate enacted through the A.C.A to buy healthcare. Such accounts can be used to purchase low premium, catastrophic care insurance while purchasing less necessary care in the selective manner that will push costs down, and will push premiums down for all Americans. (Source: Wood for Congress, <http://ow.ly/xQkTl>)

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.

Maxine Waters (Dem):

I remain concerned about the high level of unemployment in California and nationally and will continue my efforts to help put more Americans back to work[...] Funding in the stimulus package has prevented layoffs of many nurses, police officers, firefighters and teachers, enabling them to continue both to provide for their families and serve our communities. In addition, the stimulus has created jobs for workers constructing and repairing vital infrastructure and transportation projects. (Source: Rep. Water's Congressional Website, <http://ow.ly/c4bZn>)

John Wood Jr. (Rep):

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

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
AARP

601 E Street NW
Washington, DC 20049

