



US House California District 45

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.

Drew E. Leavens (Dem):

Seniors paid in to these programs throughout their lifetime. When you pay into programs it is not an entitlement[...] but an "earned benefit. Once a person reaches retirement age, they ask little from the government. But one thing they deserve is to be respected and appreciated for the contributions they have made over the course of their lifetimes. They also deserve stability in terms of the earned benefits they have acquired. They should not have to endure the endless talk about having social security benefits reduced. Nor should they have to put up with the GOP's ongoing effort to create a voucher system for Medicare. (Source, Leavens for Congress, <http://ow.ly/xHXng>)

Mimi Walters (Rep):

Social Security is more than a government program, it is a bond between the government and its citizens. We must keep our promise to America's seniors. I will work to preserve the benefits that those at or near retirement have planned their lives around, while also guaranteeing that future generations have the ability to control and plan for their eventual retirements. (Source: Walters' Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/xHTZP>)

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.

Drew E. Leavens (Dem):

Where I believe we should double our efforts is in the area of Medicare fraud. Fraud is an affront to all taxpayers and cannot be tolerated. I would submit that greater efforts have to be made relative to Medicare fraud and penalties should be increased. Elderly citizens have suffered through the recession just like everybody else. Many have had to go back to work to make ends meet. With interest rates at rock bottom, virtually nothing could be earned in the bond markets. This means there is more reliance than ever on social security remaining stable and Medicare not being cut or morphed into a voucher program. (Source: Leavens for Congress, <http://ow.ly/xHXng>)

Mimi Walters (Rep):

I will work to immediately restore the \$700 million that Obamacare took from Medicare and demand that Medicare not be used to finance Obamacare. (Source: Walters' Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/xHVMc>)

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.

Drew E. Leavens (Dem):

The best path to the creation of more jobs and higher paying jobs is to add short term stimulus to the economy. I support spending on infrastructure projects as a stimulus package. I support higher taxes on companies who offshore American jobs. Businesses need consistency and predictability, not government shutdowns and debt crises. There should be incentives to lowering business and corporate tax rates. (Source: Leavens for Congress, <http://ow.ly/xO4pw>)

Mimi Walters (Rep):

Small and medium size businesses are the backbone of our economy. They create most of our jobs and help Americans provide for their families. I want to reduce the red tape, and the regulatory burdens that are hurting our small businesses. I want to give people chasing the American dream the incentive to go out there, start their own businesses, create jobs and live better lives. (Source: Walters' Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/xHVMc>)



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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