



## US House Colorado District 1

### **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.

### **Diana L. DeGette (Dem):**

We should not use Social Security and Medicare as bargaining chips for deficit reduction. We must recognize they are separate trust funds which, while solvent for the next few years and decades, must be reviewed for long-term viability. I urge creation of a bi-partisan commission, similar to Ronald Reagan's National Commission on Social Security Reform, to review the details of those programs as they affect future generations, while realizing that current beneficiaries have made their retirement plans around current frameworks and cannot reasonably accept changes... (Source: Rep. Degette Congressional Website, <http://ow.ly/c2gpf>)

### **Martin H. Walsh (Rep):**

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

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## **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.

### **Diana L. DeGette (Dem):**

We believe that the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations or the Subcommittee on Health should promptly hold hearings to examine these abuses and how we can protect Medicare beneficiaries and taxpayers...The Inspector General's report released today reveals severe problems with the structure of the Part D program and the behavior of the private insurers that administer the drug benefit. These failures present a severe risk to program integrity, reduce beneficiaries access to important drugs, increase drug costs for seniors, and cause billions of dollars in wasted taxpayer funds. (Source: Rep. Degette Congressional Website, <http://ow.ly/c2hIG>)

### **Martin H. Walsh (Rep):**

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

## **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.

### **Diana L. DeGette (Dem):**

Since December 2007, millions of hard-working Americans have lost their jobs, their homes and their retirement security, and the blame for that disastrous situation rests largely at the feet of Wall Street banks who let America's families and small businesses pay the price for their recklessness...This bill is a huge step in the right direction to finally put Main Street ahead of Wall Street and make sure that recklessness cannot happen again. This reform will empower consumers, protect our families from fraud, and provide Coloradans with better financial security moving forward. (Source: Rep. Degette Congressional Website, <http://ow.ly/czinU>)

### **Martin H. Walsh (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](http://aarp.org/yourvote).

## Voter Information Inside

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AARP

601 E Street NW  
Washington, DC 20049

