



# **US House Colorado District 5**

#### **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 Colorado District 5

# **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.

## Irving L. Halter Jr. (Dem):

Halter says the nation can do better by its children and seniors by tackling the national debt and improving schools, and that Social Security and Medicare should be secured. (Source: Halter's Campaign Site, http://goo.gl/Cu4jfP)

### Doug L. Lamborn (Rep):

We must also reform Social Security to prevent severe cuts to future benefits. This budget forces policy makers to work together to enact common-sense reforms. The goal of this proposal is to save Social Security for current retirees and strengthen it for future generations by building upon ideas offered by the president's bipartisan fiscal commission. (Source: Rep. Lamborn Congressional Website, http://ow.ly/c2zbh)

# **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.

## Irving L. Halter Jr. (Dem):

Halter says the nation can do better by its children and seniors by tackling the national debt and improving schools, and that Social Security and Medicare should be secured. (Source: Halter's Campaign Site, http://goo.gl/Cu4jfP)

## Doug L. Lamborn (Rep):

...(B)udget reform...starts with saving Medicare...But because government should not force people to reorganize their lives, its reforms will not affect those in or near retirement in any way. Starting in 2022, new Medicare beneficiaries will be enrolled in the same kind of health-care program that members of Congress enjoy. Future Medicare recipients will be able to choose a plan that works best for them from a list of guaranteed coverage options...Reform that empowers individuals—with more help for the poor and the sick—will guarantee that Medicare can fulfill the promise of health security for America's seniors. (Source: Rep. Lamborn Congressional Website, http://ow.ly/c2zbh)

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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.

## Irving L. Halter Jr. (Dem):

Having been a leader in the Colorado Springs business community, Irv knows what it takes to create jobs and get our economy moving. It begins with a fair tax code that does not penalize success. And, it includes regulatory reform so small businesses are not over-burdened. Irv will always look out for Colorado families and fight to make sure middle-class tax rates do not go up. It also means making sure that the American Dream is still available for our kids and grandkids. and Medicare should be secured. (Source: Halter's Campaign Site, http://goo.gl/3pIQR9)

### Doug L. Lamborn (Rep):

Lower taxes boost our economy. When Americans are allowed to keep more of their own money, they invest in our economy. Congressman Lamborn has a strong record of working hard to protect taxpayers. He believes the government must be resourceful and do more with fewer hard-earned tax dollars. Congressman Lamborn is continuing to fight to make the Bush tax cuts permanent. In addition, he is working to pass a federal Taxpayers' Bill of Rights...which will establish four basic rights to ensure that taxpayers across America have a more efficient and accountable government. (Source: Rep. Lamborn Congressional Website, http://ow.ly/c2ynk)



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**



