



## **US House Connecticut District 3**

#### **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 protect benefits for people who count on them most, including surviving spouses and families, low-wage workers, and individuals who become disabled and can no longer 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.

#### James E. Brown (Rep):

I'm committed to making good on all promises for current retirees and those approaching retirement. I believe we must gradually increase the age of receiving benefits to 70 and allow individuals to opt out. (Source: Brown for Congress, http://ow.ly/z2TR4)

#### Rosa L. DeLauro (Dem):

The genius of the Social Security system is that it ties generations together. I pay in for my mother during my working life, and in the future my children will pay in for me, and it will never become insolvent. DeLauro decried attempts to privatize or limit Social Security, citing the fact that millions of seniors, disabled and children would fall into poverty without this program. (Source: People's World publication, http://ow.ly/cwOKY)

### **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.

#### James E. Brown (Rep):

Medicare must continue to be fully funded, but policing of fraud and abuse must be increased. (Source: Brown for Congress, http://ow.ly/z2TR4)

#### Rosa L. DeLauro (Dem):

The Congresswoman supports a strong Medicare program to ensure we meet the health needs of seniors and opposes policies and budgets that would weaken Medicare. She supported provisions of the Affordable Care Act that improved the program, such as: Closing the Medicare Part D 'donut hole'...Eliminating out of pocket costs for recommended preventive health services, like annual wellness exams, cancer screenings, and diabetes screenings...Reducing fraud and abuse in the program (Source: Congresswoman DeLauro's official site, http://ow.ly/cYa1Q)

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### **Financial Security**

## How would you help Americans build a financial nest egg for their retirement?

#### **AARP's Position:**

There should be more opportunities and incentives for all Americans to save for their retirement and financial security. Freedom from age discrimination is a fundamental right, and all Americans should be able to keep working and contributing to society regardless of age. Promoting affordable homeownership and safeguarding home equity are important to maintain and improve the independence and quality of life of Americans age 50-plus.

#### James E. Brown (Rep):

Everyone deserves the opportunity to a financially secure future. Financial education needs to be promoted and available to all. This should include reverse mortgages, annuities, and Roth IRA's with increased maximums, all of which are good ways to ensure a secure financial future. (Source: Brown for Congress, http://ow.ly/z2TR4)

#### Rosa L. DeLauro (Dem):

Promote cost-of-living increases to Social Security so that seniors receive the benefits they desperately need to pay increasing food, heating and medical costs. This year, Rosa cosponsored legislation to provide financial support to seniors to fill the gap in Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) in this difficult economy. In addition, I will continue to call for policies that increase private retirement savings through opt-out workplace pension plans and pressuring companies to honor their pension obligations. (Source: DeLauro for Congress website, http://ow.ly/cv2BI)



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**



