



## US House Georgia District 7

### **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.

### **Thomas D. Wight (Dem):**

Social Security should have two basic components: First, it should make health care available for all Americans. Second, it should provide income to those who have retired. I propose universal health care for all Americans who are disabled or are contributing to the Social Security system. Individuals have the option of opting out of health benefits by purchasing health care for themselves[...] Retirement age should be tied to the Social Security actuarial table. As people live longer the expectation is that they should spend more years producing wealth. (Source: Thomas Wright's Congressional Website, <http://ow.ly/xxAPg>)

### **Rob Woodall III (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.

### **Thomas D. Wight (Dem):**

Making health care universally available is one of the cornerstones of long term prosperity. Currently health care is prohibitively expensive[...] the only way to make health care affordable is to increase supply. History teaches us that increased competition drives down costs and improves quality. The quickest way to increase supply is to make substantial public investment to remove the artificial barriers to training additional health care professionals[...] we need to quit wasting tax dollars and start using those dollars to build medical schools. (Source: Thomas Wright's Congressional Website, <http://ow.ly/xxAPg>)

### **Rob Woodall III (Rep):**

The federal government has managed Medicare into near bankruptcy. We must instead focus on common-sense reforms, like modifying our medical liability laws, expanding access and use of consumer-driven products like Health Savings Accounts, and dealing with the challenge of Medicare physician reimbursements. (Source: Woodall Congressional Website, <http://ow.ly/xxA5I>)

## **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.

### **Thomas D. Wight (Dem):**

Savings, more than spending, is the hallmark of a healthy economy. Unfortunately, Americans save very little. The tax code creates significant disincentives to saving. The tax code should be revised to reward saving. (Source: Wight's Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/yVizE>)

### **Rob Woodall III (Rep):**

We can compete with any country...if we have a level playing field. Today, the playing field is not level, and we have created many of these problems ourselves. Burdensome tax laws, ridiculous compliance codes, expensive mandates, and most of those originated in Washington and destroy jobs back home. [...] We don't need a new round of legislation and regulation to save America; we need a new round of repeal and elimination. We can do it, and we can save the American economy for ourselves and more importantly, our children. (Source: Woodall Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/ybFda>)



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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