



US House Hawaii 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

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.

Charles K. Djou (Rep):

Social Security, Medicare and other entitlement programs need to be protected, not abused and exploited. Frequent borrowing from social security to pay for today's "priorities" has bankrupted the program. With continuing high unemployment rates and the cost of healthcare rising, the last thing our country needs is a tax hike or a cut to entitlements earned by senior citizens. (Source: Djou campaign site, <http://goo.gl/oB9sVV>)

K. Mark Takai (Dem):

"I have seen first hand how important Social Security and Medicare are for seniors on a fixed income. Folks work their whole lives to earn the security and well-being made possible through these benefits, and we owe it to them to make good on our promises." I will not support any plan that ends Social Security or Medicare as we know it by eliminating guaranteed benefits. (Source: Vote Smart, <http://ow.ly/yovX8>)

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.

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K. Mark Takai (Dem):

I will not support any plan that ends Medicare as we know it by eliminating guaranteed benefits. Turning Medicare into a voucher system will force people to fight with insurance companies over what treatments may or may not be covered. This will result in higher costs for prescription medication and will cost the average senior thousands of dollars more per year, forcing them to make terrible trade-offs over life-saving treatment. We also must continue to improve the Medicare system by eliminating waste and fraud while bolstering its value and efficiency. Medicare should be allowed to negotiate for cheaper drug prices. (Source: Vote Smart, <http://ow.ly/yovX8>)

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.

Charles K. Djou (Rep):

I strongly support expanding trade, especially in the Asia-Pacific region. That's why I back granting fast-track authority to the President to pass the Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade agreement between the U.S. and several Asia-Pacific nations. Free trade with Asia is good for America, but will especially benefit Hawaii and create jobs in our islands. (Source: Djou campaign site, <http://goo.gl/oB9sVV>)

K. Mark Takai (Dem):

I will work to end the tax breaks for the largest multinational oil and drug companies, and end the Washington mentality that forces small businessmen and women to fight for their lives every day. In Congress, I will push for tax credits and low interest loans for small business to open and expand. I will push for research and development incentives so all businesses – large and small – have an opportunity to be leaders in innovation. (Source: Taki for Congress, <http://ow.ly/yowCU>)



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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