



## US House Idaho District 2

### **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.

### **Mike Simpson (Rep):**

Idahoans want to ensure that their aging loved ones will continue to be cared for throughout their lives[...]I know that senior citizens depend on programs like Medicare and Social Security and reducing or eliminating benefits for senior citizens is not an option. However, if we don't do something to significantly reform programs like Medicare and Social Security, our children and grandchildren[...] won't see any benefits from this investment. We must take the steps necessary to ensure that these crucial programs continue to provide a safety net[...] and security to those who depend on them in their daily lives. (Source: Simpson House Site, <http://ow.ly/xlmwZ>)

### **Richard H. Stallings (Dem):**

Social Security is in pretty good shape. That's fairly sound. With a couple of tweaks, you could make Social Security solvent for another generation, another 100 years. I mean it wouldn't take much. By removing the cap on what you tax would be one way to do that and you would have plenty of revenue and you would take care of future needs. (Source: Local News 8, ABC <http://ow.ly/xlv53>)

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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.

### **Mike Simpson (Rep):**

There is no path to economic vitality and greater job security in our nation that doesn't include significant cuts to excessive spending and reforms to major mandatory programs like Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. Our nation's major mandatory spending programs are growing at unsustainable rates and will soon consume every dime of federal revenue. Congress, and the American people, must get serious about reforming these programs, taking them off auto-pilot and putting them on a sustainable path, and ensuring they will be available for future generations. (Source: [simpsonforcongress.com](http://simpsonforcongress.com), <http://ow.ly/cbofg>)

### **Richard H. Stallings (Dem):**

Medicare is a little tougher. We are going to have to figure out how to get more money into the program and one of the things that is helping right now is the Affordable Care Act and that has been fairly helpful in reducing spending on healthcare, but we're still going to find some additional resources. I think there is some ways you can do that. I think, as a senior who is now getting Medicare, we don't pay an awfully lot for it and I think for a lot of seniors they could (Source: Local News 8, ABC <http://ow.ly/xlv53>)

## **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.

### **Mike Simpson (Rep):**

My constituents are tired of worrying about their financial security and would like to see some indication that our economy is moving in the right direction – that Congress is serious about getting our budget deficit under control. I would like to see a pro-growth tax code that is more simple and fair with substantially lower personal and corporate tax rates. (Source: mountainhomenews.com, <http://ow.ly/cbooW>)

### **Richard H. Stallings (Dem):**

I will work at the federal level to bring high paying jobs to Idaho and do whatever I can to lure new companies and retain the ones we already have. (Source: Democracy.com <http://ow.ly/xls7q>)



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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