



## US House Illinois 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.

### **Robin L. Kelly (Dem):**

As your Congresswoman, I will fight to prevent cuts to Social Security[...] that will leave our seniors financially vulnerable. I will oppose reducing cost-of-living adjustments as well as efforts to raise the eligibility age for receiving benefits, which puts an unfair burden on laboring people whose bodies begin to age sooner. As your Congresswoman, I will work to protect Social Security[...] so that our seniors have the support they've earned and deserve. (Source: Kelly's Campaign Site <http://ow.ly/xlNWL>)

### **Eric M. Wallace (Rep):**

To maintain money for Social Security, Wallace said there should be a means test for those who receive it. People who make enough money shouldn't receive the assistance, he said. "What we're trying to do is make sure it's still viable for those like myself so that when I'm 80 years old, the benefits will still be there," Wallace said. (Source: Sun Times, <http://ow.ly/xlVrw>)

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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.

### **Robin L. Kelly (Dem):**

I'm standing up for Illinois seniors by defending benefits provided to seniors through the Affordable Care Act[...] Standing up against efforts to privatize... or end Medicare by replacing it with a voucher program[...] I support reforms that will make Social Security and Medicare more efficient without reducing benefits for our seniors, Expanding Medicare coverage to ensure that seniors have access to the best healthcare available, Protecting the solvency of[...] Medicare for future generations[...] I'm committed to responsibly reforming Medicare... to ensure the longevity of these programs. (Source: Kelly's Congressional Site <http://ow.ly/xlNur>)

### **Eric M. Wallace (Rep):**

When asked by the Tribune editorial board how he would cut Medicare, Wallace began to read from a conservative think tank's proposal. Wallace also couldn't say whether he would have voted for Republican U.S. Rep. Paul Ryan's controversial budget last year, admitting he hadn't studied it closely. (Source: Chicago Tribune, <http://ow.ly/xlWzZ>)

## **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.

### **Robin L. Kelly (Dem):**

Far too many homeowners in the 2nd District are struggling to maintain their mortgages. To address this issue, Kelly held the 2nd Congressional District Housing Expo in Matteson, where she and her staff assisted hundreds of district residents who'd fallen behind on their mortgages, were in danger of foreclosure, or who were looking to buy a home for the first time. Home ownership and access to affordable housing are the foundation for financial security for families and Kelly is committed to increasing housing options in the district. (Source Daily Kos <http://ow.ly/xlQKs>)

### **Eric M. Wallace (Rep):**

Wallace believes that a free market economy is the best way to improve our economy and create wealth. He therefore is for creating an environment in which small businesses can thrive and job creation can flourish. (Source: Wallace Campaign Site, <http://ow.ly/xlZdv>)



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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AARP

601 E Street NW  
Washington, DC 20049

