



US House Illinois District 6

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.

Michael Mason (Dem):

I would vote no to cutting Social Security or Medicare. We need to protect our seniors who have spent their lives supporting us. (Source: Daily Herald, <http://ow.ly/xonxs>)

Peter J. Roskam (Rep):

I have made a firm commitment to the people of the 6th Congressional District that I will work to ensure we have a Social Security system that is able to keep its promises to our seniors and future generations. We are, however, on an unsustainable path... We need to have an honest and open conversation about how to craft a system that is both predictable and sustainable. The conversation that limits our options to only benefit cuts or tax increases is too narrow. Draconian benefit cuts will gut the promise of the current system and... Simply relying on tax increases to meet the program's obligations also fails to provide a solution. (Source: Chicago Tribune <http://ow.ly/xofrp>)

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.

Michael Mason (Dem):

I would vote no to cutting Social Security or Medicare. We need to protect our seniors who have spent their lives supporting us. (Source: Daily Herald, <http://ow.ly/xonxs>)

Peter J. Roskam (Rep):

Medicare pays out \$60 billion of fraudulent and wasteful claims each year, an affront to taxpayers and a disservice to the care our seniors depend on. Congressman Roskam authored legislation to apply credit card style anti-fraud technology to Medicare payments, a proposal backed by the White House and endorsed by AARP, National Healthcare Anti-Fraud Association, and Citizens Against Government Waste. (Source: Roskam Campaign Site <http://ow.ly/xoaoq>)

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.

Michael Mason (Dem):

Government investment will spur economic growth and promote job creation. Programs that have been routinely enacted in the past now meet with Tea Party and extreme right wing resistance. Investment in infrastructure projects would create good paying jobs that would keep the recovery on track. (Source: Mason Campaign Site, <http://ow.ly/xoq71>)

Peter J. Roskam (Rep):

In Congress, I have cosponsored legislation to help Americans... secure a steady, reliable stream of income for life. The Retirement Security for Life Act creates a tax incentive[...] by excluding from federal taxes half of the income from an individual lifetime annuity[...] This would translate into as much as \$5,000 in tax savings for an individual in the 25 percent tax bracket. Families just like yours have worked all their lives trying to make ends meet and saving up for a retirement nest egg. It is important that we help you turn your hard-earned savings into retirement security in the form of a guaranteed "paycheck for life." (Source: Votesmart.org <http://ow.ly/xooYm>)



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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