



## US House Illinois 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.

### **Robert L. Bumpers (Rep):**

AARP did extensive research but was unable to find any public statement on this issue by July 11, 2014.

### **Danny K. Davis (Dem):**

I strongly oppose any attempts to cut benefits for our seniors or to raise the retirement age. Privatization will undermine funding for Social Security and place beneficiaries at risk. I strongly oppose all attempts to privatize Social Security. I remain confident that with a little good will and honesty this Congress can ensure that Social Security will be solid for generations to come. (Source: Congressman Davis' official site; <http://ow.ly/cT8WG>)

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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.

### **Robert L. Bumpers (Rep):**

AARP did extensive research but was unable to find any public statement on this issue by July 11, 2014.

### **Danny K. Davis (Dem):**

I support a single payer health care system - Medicare for all[which] is efficient (Medicare has an overhead of about 3% while private insurance has an overhead in excess of 25%) and provides coverage for all our people[...]. Curbing the growth in health care spending is critical, as the current growth rate is unsustainable. There are several key areas[...]: reducing waste and fraud, eliminating wasteful, non-productive overhead, increasing emphasis on preventive care and inculcating healthy life styles, negotiating prescription drug prices, introducing competition in insurance rates and implementing electronic records. (Source: Chicago Tribune; <http://ow.ly/cT9ka>)

## **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.

### **Robert L. Bumpers (Rep):**

AARP did extensive research but was unable to find any public statement on this issue by July 11, 2014.

### **Danny K. Davis (Dem):**

Cities and states all across America are facing a crisis in funding pensions[...]I am opposed to reducing pension benefits for current employees or two tier systems with new employees receiving reduced benefits...With wages largely stagnant for the past 30+ years our nation's workers economic security is now seriously threatened. It is the consumption of working America which has powered the growth of our economy. Where the economy stagnates and contracts cities wither and die. Pensions (public and private), along with Social Security, are key components of working America's economic security[...] (Source: Post Tribune; <http://ow.ly/cT9O2>)



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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