



US House Illinois District 8

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.

Tammy Duckworth (Dem):

Since the creation of Social Security and Medicare millions of Americans have relied on these crucial programs to live their lives with dignity. Millions more who have paid into the system are counting on these programs to one day provide them with quality health care and income in their retirement. [...] I am willing to consider raising the cap on earnings subject to the payroll tax above \$110,100 as a way to strengthen Social Security. I would also take steps to make sure that the Social Security Trust Fund is repaid in full for the funds it has loaned during decades of surpluses. (Source: Duckworth Congressional Site, <http://ow.ly/xoyao>)

Lawrence J. Kaifesh (Rep):

Social Security and Medicare are currently on a path to elimination. I think courageous, smart and effective reformation is essential, if we are to maintain these entitlements for future generations. It won't be easy or popular, but it is essential. (Source: Daily Herald <http://ow.ly/xoGLZ>)

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.

Tammy Duckworth (Dem):

I oppose privatizing Medicare by turning it into a voucher system – doing so would end Medicare as we know it and diminish its protections and benefits. However, there are practical steps we can take to strengthen the system and preserve its integrity. I am a proud cosponsor of The PRIME Act that was introduced by Congressman Peter Roskam (IL-R). It would enact stronger penalties for Medicare and Medicaid fraud and help prevent improper or mistaken payments for the programs. I will work with members of both parties to protect the guarantees of Social Security and Medicare for current and future beneficiaries. (Source: Duckworth Congressional Site, <http://ow.ly/xoyao>)

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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.

Tammy Duckworth (Dem):

Manufacturers in the 8th District tell me that they have positions they need filled but are unable to do so because they cannot find qualified candidates. With too many talented Americans still out of work, it is imperative that they have access to retraining so that they can fill these manufacturing jobs and help America compete in the global economy. That is why I've co-sponsored the bipartisan Manufacturing Reinvestment Account Act, which makes it easier for manufacturers to invest in equipment, facilities, and job training. (Source: Duckworth Congressional Site, <http://ow.ly/xoBvk>)

Lawrence J. Kaifesh (Rep):

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



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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