



US House Illinois District 11

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.

Bill Foster (Dem):

Foster believes placing any of Social Security's future in the hands of Wall Street is a bad idea...Foster also believes money managers would extract fees from those Social Security investments that only put a further drain on retirement savings... Foster spoke of possibly increasing the age recipients would be eligible to access Social Security benefits[...] "I think everything should be on the table, but I'm not going to get behind any one of these specific proposals until I've seen the whole compromise,"[...] Foster favors President Barack Obama's plan to make the portion of income above \$250,000 subject to the Social Security tax for the first time. (Source Daily Herald/Campaign Site <http://ow.ly/xpgju>)

Darlene J. Senger (R):

We have to respect the promises that have been made to 50 million Americans that rely on Social Security. To keep the country's promise, Congress needs to look at serious budget reform in order to pay the costs of Social Security. Also, entitlement programs should be thoroughly audited to remove fraud and abuse so that those who need and are entitled to safety net programs get the services they deserve. (Source: Daily Herald, <http://ow.ly/xpiCo>)

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.

Bill Foster (Dem):

"Medicare is a critical safety net that millions of Americans rely on," Foster said. "The Ryan budget would be devastating for future generations of seniors, and I will continue to fight against it." (Source: Sun Times <http://ow.ly/xpfen>)

Darlene J. Senger (R):

I believe that Social Security and Medicare are promises from the government that many citizens have based hard life decisions on and the current programs should not be changed. (Source: Kane County Chronicle, <http://ow.ly/xpjDZ>)

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.

Bill Foster (Dem):

A higher minimum wage would also help improve the economy. It would give families more to spend on food, gas and other essentials. And it would allow them to work their way out of poverty and stop relying on public assistance programs like Medicaid and food stamps. (Source: Foster Campaign site <http://ow.ly/xphvS>)

Darlene J. Senger (R):

Job creation and economic growth will be my top priority in Congress. Cutting back on burdensome, unnecessary and unrealistic regulations is the first step towards creating jobs. (Source: Senger Campaign Site, <http://ow.ly/xpjUw>)



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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