



## US House Illinois District 12

### **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.

### **Mike Bost (Rep):**

Those counting on Social Security and Medicare should not have to worry about the promises that were made to them are kept. Mike opposes efforts to privatize, raise the retirement age or increase the payroll tax. Congress must work together to prevent the financial collapse of these programs by promoting bipartisan efforts to address systemic problems and ensure its longevity for current and future generations. (Source: Bost Campaign Site, <http://ow.ly/xprg2>)

### **Bill L. Enyart Jr. (Dem):**

Enyart said he would consider changes in Social Security, but believes both Social Security and Medicare are strong programs that provide life-saving benefits for the elderly and do not warrant any radical changes... Like many Democrats, Enyart believes Social Security can be stabilized by small changes in eligibility and the payroll tax. Neither program should be privatized in even the smallest way... (Source: Labor Tribune <http://goo.gl/CQ98t2>)

## **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.

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### **Bill L. Enyart Jr. (Dem):**

Medicare is vital not only to my district, but our entire country – which is why my fellow colleagues and I should support its promise to all our citizens who have earned it, who have paid for it through their taxes and who now rely on it for a stable health care system.” (Source: Enyart's Congressional Page <http://ow.ly/xpmRM>)

## **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.

### **Mike Bost (Rep):**

"It is time to stop the constant barrage of tax increases because Illinois is already a high-tax state," Rep. Bost added. "Not only do these increases drive employers out of the state, but they also drive life-long residents to lower-taxed states. In order to ensure that people and companies want to invest in Illinois, we must take these actions to make sure they have the opportunity to prosper." (Bost Campaign Site, <http://ow.ly/xprU5>)

### **Bill L. Enyart Jr. (Dem):**

To build a strong foundation for our families, we must focus on creating jobs that pay a living wage and make strategic investments in manufacturing and infrastructure. We also must invest in our greatest asset, our workforce... One of my top priorities is the Job Opportunities Between our Shores (JOBS) Act (H.R. 1436), which I introduced to strengthen job retraining programs. This legislation will encourage workforce development in Southern Illinois and across the country by expanding partnerships between community colleges and local manufacturers. (Source: Enyart Campaign Site <http://ow.ly/xppQQ>)



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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