



## US House Iowa District 2

### **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.

### **Dave W. Loebsack (Dem):**

I am dedicated to working on behalf of Iowa's seniors and am committed to strengthening Medicare and Social Security. As someone who knows firsthand how essential these programs are to many seniors and families, I will always work to strengthen Iowans' retirement security. (Source: Loebsack's Congressional Site, <http://ow.ly/xCd5K>)

### **Mariannette Miller-Meeks (Rep):**

As for spending, Miller-Meeks says that she thinks the entitlements of Medicare and Social Security need to be maintained adequately. "That's a contract people had with their government," she says. She also notes, however, that President Barack Obama - along with the Simpson-Bowles debt commission - proposed looking at slowing the rate of growth in payments. "This is something both parties need to bring up and address," she said. (Source: Quad City Times/The Gazette, <http://ow.ly/xCg8q>)

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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.

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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.

### **Dave W. Loebsack (Dem):**

I believe in a comprehensive approach to moving Iowa and the rest of the country forward. In order to strengthen our nation, we must invest in the true drivers of the American economy – small businesses. To that end, I have worked on numerous measures that provide tax relief and assistance to small businesses and working families. I have helped provide tax relief for small businesses that hire and retain new employees; expand financing opportunities for small businesses; and crack down on offshore accounts for corporations that ship jobs overseas. (Source: Loebsack's Congressional Site, <http://ow.ly/xCdrC>)

### **Mariannette Miller-Meeks (Rep):**

"When you're penalized by over-regulation and overzealous regulation, the big companies can bring on a convoy of lawyers to handle the compliance with these issues, but small companies, they don't have the resources to do that [...] Small and community-sized banks having access to capital, tax reform, spending restraint, trade. Trade is a very important issue in our state and for southeast Iowa, we are a rural area, we do have a farming economy as well and we have John Deere here, who helps with the farming economy. So those issues are really important to try to grow our economy, create jobs and increase take home pay." (Source: Heartland Connection, <http://ow.ly/ybQ2L>)



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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AARP

601 E Street NW  
Washington, DC 20049

