



US House Iowa District 4

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.

Steve A. King (Rep):

However, we cannot fix our nation's finances without an honest, grown-up conversation about entitlement reform. The two biggest entitlements, Social Security and Medicare, are each insolvent, and a crisis is around the corner if we continue to ignore the problem and fail to act... If we do nothing to reform them, future beneficiaries will receive only a small percentage of their promised benefits – if they receive anything at all. For this reason, we must look for common-sense reforms that will provide the benefits promised to those near or in retirement while at the same time protecting Social Security and Medicare for future generations. (Source: Kings Congressional Site, <http://ow.ly/xCqad>)

Jim Mowrer (Dem):

On Social Security, for example, any candidate can talk about the importance of maintaining the program for the future. Mowrer, of Boone, talks about when he was 7 years old and his father died in a farming accident. His mother moved off the farm and provided for her two children with a small salary and Social Security survivor benefits. "Social Security was what kept my family from falling so far down that we couldn't get back up," he said. (Source: Des Moines Register, <http://ow.ly/AeIDR>)

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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Jim Mowrer (Dem):

Others have said that Medicare should be gutted. Mowrer disagrees. There are cost savings that can be implemented without hurting people. For example, Mowrer supports allowing Medicare to negotiate prescription drug prices just like the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, which would save billions. Just like Social Security, the American people know how vital this program is and support fully funding it to ensure sustainability. (Source: Des Moines Register, <http://ow.ly/AeI84>)

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.

Steve A. King (Rep):

If job creation is truly desired, voters know government just needs to get out of the way and let businesses be productive so new hires can come on board. We need to reduce taxes and excessive regulation on business. Business needs predictability. Right now, the only thing businesses are certain of is that more taxes and regulations are coming their way - which means their ability to be profitable and create jobs will be curtailed significantly. (Source: King's Campaign Site, <http://ow.ly/xCqIM>)

Jim Mowrer (Dem):

The most efficient way to encourage job creation is through a combination of targeted tax credits to middle class families and increased investment in broadening and improving our infrastructure across the country. Mowrer believes we can put thousands of Iowans back to work by continuing to repair and improve our transportation, energy and communications infrastructure. Additionally, the federal government plays an important role in ensuring that businesses remain competitive in a free and fair market that allows every person an equal shot at the American dream. (Source: Des Moines Register, <http://ow.ly/AeLaK>)



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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601 E Street NW
Washington, DC 20049

