



US House Kentucky District 6

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.



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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.

Andy Barr IV (Rep):

I understand the consequences that harmful cuts would pose to Social Security recipients and I believe we must hold the government accountable to make sure it is able to honor its obligations to current retirees. [...] We should work to preserve the commitments we have made to current retirees, while working to ensure that the Social Security program is sustainable and able to support future generations as well. [...] By providing adequate advance time for America's taxpayers and future beneficiaries to prepare, any bipartisan legislative fixes can be phased-in gradually. (Source: Barr Congressional Page, <http://ow.ly/xzrk4>)

Elisabeth Jensen (Dem):

Social Security is an American success story that safeguards Americans' economic security and independence when they get older or become disabled. Americans have worked hard their whole lives to earn their guaranteed Social Security benefits. It would be a breach of trust to penalize American seniors who have been paying into Social Security all their lives. Social Security faces a long-term challenge, not a short-term crisis, and Democrats and Republicans in Washington must sit down together to address the challenge so we keep our commitment to seniors, survivors, and people with disabilities. (Source: Jensen Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/yey2V>)

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.

Andy Barr IV (Rep):

In an effort to confront the financial crisis with Medicare, I have worked in the House to advance responsible Medicare reform. Last year, I made a promise that I would not support changes to Medicare for people age 55 and older – those born before 1959 – and I made good on that promise with my support of this year's House budget, H. Con. Res. 25. Under this budget proposal, Medicare would not change at all for those Americans age 55 and older. (Source: Barr Congressional Page <http://ow.ly/xzrk4>)

Elisabeth Jensen (Dem):

[...] Today, nearly 50 million Americans — 15 percent of the nation's population — depend on Medicare for their health insurance coverage. • 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 specific 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. (Source: Jensen Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/yey2V>)

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.

Andy Barr IV (Rep):

If we're going to have long-term economic growth and job creation, we must ensure that our workforce has the skills they need to participate in modern manufacturing, agriculture, and services while reducing uncertainty for employers so that they can hire again. The government does not exist to "create jobs." ... My goal in Congress is to restore the federal government's traditional role of supporting and overseeing the private sector, rather than picking economic winners and losers. (Source: Barr Congressional Page, <http://ow.ly/xztgD>)

Elisabeth Jensen (Dem):

There are two major challenges in the current job market. The first is that as a society we aren't investing in the kind of infrastructure projects that are needed not only in Kentucky, but throughout the country. From bridges and road projects, to updating our energy grid, to investing in research and development, our economy depends on our investing in the basic infrastructure that makes it go. Secondly, [...] as we continue to shift from a manufacturing economy to one focused on service and technology, we need to prepare our workers for these kinds of jobs. (Source: Jensen Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/yeBtX>)



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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