



US House Louisiana District 1

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 values. We are non-partisan – 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.



HOW TO USE THE AARP VOTERS' GUIDE:

AARP asked the major candidates in this race for their solutions about issues important to AARP members, Americans age 50-plus, and their families. Each candidate was allowed up to 625 characters to answer the questions. Their responses were not edited nor modified.

AARP has provided a summary of our position for each of the issues in this guide.

aarp.org/yourvote

2014 AARP Voters' Guide | **US House Louisiana District 1**
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.

Lee A. Dugas (D):

I will also work on a permanent bill providing protections for Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, ACA, also providing protecting the Hand up people sometimes need. (Source: Voteforme.com, <http://ow.ly/C73Rg>)

Vinny Mendoza (D):

[Some] want to cut Medicare and privatize Social Security. And I do not. When it comes to cutting your Medicare and Social Security programs you are the only one that should vote [...] (Source: Mendoza Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/C775j>)

Social Security

How would you protect Social Security for today's seniors and strengthen it for future generations?

Steve Scalise (R):

Congressman Scalise has introduced legislation that will generate new revenues for the Social Security trust funds by increasing domestic energy production, and in his bill, Congressman Scalise has placed a "lock box" on those funds so that they cannot be misspent by the government on unrelated government programs. He has also cosponsored legislation that will place a "lock box" on all funds in the trust funds. Scalise is committed to protecting and strengthening Social Security and ensuring that the program will fulfill its promises to America's seniors while improving the long-term stability of Social Security (Source: Scalise Congressional Page, <http://ow.ly/xzwEF>)

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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Medicare

How would you put Medicare on stronger financial ground and protect today's seniors and future retirees from rising health costs?

Steve Scalise (R):

Transition Medicare to a solvent premium-support system...for workers born in 1954 and later. This plan provides enrollees greater...choices including staying with the current system, harnessing the power of competition among private insurance and improving quality of care. Gradually realign the...Medicare eligibility age with increasing longevity. The threshold for eligibility would increase to 70 in increments of 2 months per year beginning in 2024. These reforms would be phased in over decades and would not impact individuals currently 55 or older. (Source: Republican Study Committee Website, <http://ow.ly/yI3TQ>)

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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.

Lee A. Dugas (D):

AARP did extensive research but was unable to find any public statement on this issue by July 11, 2014.

Vinny Mendoza (D):

"It is time to encourage more companies (foreign as well as domestic) to make Louisiana their home. Encouraging foreign and domestic companies to bring jobs to Louisiana will be my #1 priority. These jobs can be the source of innovation for clean energy, for the new generation of "green" manufacturing jobs, and for ecosystem restoration."
(Ballotpedia, <http://ow.ly/C77po>)

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Financial Security

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Steve Scalise (R):

Congressman Scalise firmly believes that we can create good, high-paying jobs and encourage personal savings by lowering the tax burden on our families. Congress must restore fiscal discipline and promote a tax policy that is fair to our families and small businesses. (Source: Scalise Congressional Page, <http://ow.ly/xzyf9>)

Tired of the campaign clutter? The AARP Voters' Guide will help you find out where the candidates stand on the issues important to you and your family.



For more information, please go to www.aarp.org/yourvote.

Voter Information Inside

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