



# **US House Maine District 1**

#### **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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## 2014 AARP Voters' Guide | US House Maine 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.

### Isaac J. Misiuk (Rep):

As for entitlement reforms, Misiuk says he would immediately introduce a bill to halt all borrowing from the Social Security trust – an accounting trick he believes has eroded the solvency of the program and fueled fiscal profligacy. "We're stealing from people that have paid into the system," he said. (Source: The Maine Wire, http://ow.ly/ygCBA)

### Chellie M. Pingree (Dem):

Let me assure you, Social Security will be there for you and your family[...] That's not to say we don't need to address a serious problem...Thankfully, there is a way to keep Social Security running for the next 75 years without decreasing benefits[...] I'm cosponsoring legislation to remove the income cap because it will both extend the viability of the program and give seniors a better quality of life. Other proposals on the table include cutting benefits or raising the retirement age. While these proposals might balance the books, they do nothing to help people live a good retirement. (Source: Pingree's Congressional Site, http://ow.ly/xA4uC)

## **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.

### Isaac J. Misiuk (Rep):

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

## Chellie M. Pingree (Dem):

For 60 years, Medicare has given millions of seniors the health care they need and kept them out of poverty. It's a benefit our seniors have worked hard to earn. Still, some see it as a way to balance a deficit that our seniors to cause. I'm against any cutting for Medicare benefits and medical care for our retirees and I vow to fight any proposals to do so. (Source: Pingree's Congressional Site, http://ow.ly/xSxd9)

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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.

#### Isaac J. Misiuk (Rep):

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

#### Chellie M. Pingree (Dem):

I know that for too many Maine families times are tough right now and that's why my top priority is protecting and creating Maine jobs. I've worked hard to support economic development at the former Brunswick Naval Air Station, in Biddeford's mill district, at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard and on Maine's working waterfronts. In Congress, I fought to end tax breaks for companies that ship our jobs overseas and will vote against any unfair trade deals that cost us jobs. (Source: Pingree's Congressional Site, http://ow.ly/xSC1G)



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**



