



### **US House Massachusetts District 3**

#### 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.

## Roseann L. Ehrhard Wofford (Rep):

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

#### Niki S. Tsongas (Dem):

I am committed to strengthening Social Security so that our national contract with America's workers endures for future generations of seniors. In all instances, there should be no changes to the system for those now receiving benefits or for those who are approaching eligibility. I strongly object to the proposals to privatize Social Security. We don't want to replace a guarantee with a gamble ... The Trust Fund is projected to be solvent for several decades, at which time, if no action is taken, benefits will be reduced, but the program will not contribute to the debt. (Source: Tsongas Congressional Site, http://ow.ly/xAtWi)

### **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.

## Roseann L. Ehrhard Wofford (Rep):

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

#### Niki S. Tsongas (Dem):

I have consistently voted to prevent cuts in payments to physicians under Medicare, ensuring that Medicare beneficiaries will continue to have access to physicians' care. We must ensure that physicians are able to accept the insurance that seniors in our country rely on day after day, and I will continue to support initiatives designed to preserve the vital coverage Medicare provides for seniors so that this program can continue to provide accessible and affordable health care to millions. (Source: Tsongas **Congressional Site** http://ow.ly/xAtWi)

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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.

## Roseann L. Ehrhard Wofford (Rep):

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

#### Niki S. Tsongas (Dem):

I have voted to increase and better target workforce training to ensure that workers have the skills to fill high-tech Massachusetts jobs; to create incentives for manufacturing done here and eliminate tax rewards for companies that ship jobs overseas... improve the Manufacturing Extension Partnership program to support small and medium-sized manufacturers; help community colleges focus on the skill sets needed by area manufacturers; provide federal loan guarantees to help manufacturers access capital; and provide seed-funding to high-tech companies. (Source: Tsongas Congressional Site, http://ow.ly/xAuFt)



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**



601 E Street NW Washington, DC 20049

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