



## US House Massachusetts District 5

### **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](https://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.

### **Katherine M. Clark (Dem):**

As a nation we made a promise to our seniors: if you pay into the system, the services to which you contribute will be available to assist you when you retire. I believe we have a moral obligation to keep this promise. It is unacceptable to try to balance the budget on the backs of our seniors who have worked hard and played by the rules their entire lives. Instead, we should focus on helping seniors supplement Social Security benefits to ensure a secure retirement, not cutting the modest benefit Social Security provides. (Source: Clark's Congressional Site, <http://ow.ly/xAyNe>)

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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?*

### **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.

### **Katherine M. Clark (Dem):**

Another essential component to securing senior retirement is ensuring the integrity of Medicare. I know firsthand how important it is to make sure our seniors have the medical benefits they need and deserve. I strongly oppose any plan to end Medicare as we know it and increase health care costs for seniors by thousands of dollars a year. Any of these Medicare alternatives would leave seniors unable to pay for their medical care. We need to go after rising costs – not go back on our promises. (Source: Clark's Congressional Site, <http://ow.ly/xAyNe>)

## **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.

### **Katherine M. Clark (Dem):**

The Better off Budget reverses harmful cuts that have hit working families the hardest—starting with repealing across-the-board budget cuts known as sequestration. It creates a fairer tax code so that low and middle-income families no longer pay more than they should while the world's biggest corporations benefit from unnecessary loopholes. The Better off Budget reverses harmful pay freezes, expands benefits for retirees and strengthens health care and retirement programs Americans rely on. I will continue to fight for a budget that gets back to doing the hard work of building an economy that works for everyone. (Source: Clark Congressional Site, <http://goo.gl/G9W1Yq>)



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](http://aarp.org/yourvote).

## Voter Information Inside

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