



## US House Michigan District 9

### **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 protect benefits for people who count on them most, including surviving spouses and families, low-wage workers, and individuals who become disabled and can no longer 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.

### **George Brikho (Rep):**

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

### **Sandy M. Levin (Dem):**

As the Ranking Democratic Member of the Ways and Means Committee in the House of Representatives, which oversees the Social Security program, I will continue to fight to strengthen Social Security. I have opposed efforts to privatize social security or cut benefits and will continue to do so (Source: Levin's Congressional Site <http://ow.ly/xO99j>)

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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.

### **George Brikho (Rep):**

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

### **Sandy M. Levin (Dem):**

I am fighting to protect guaranteed benefits for all 47 million Americans on Medicare. Estimates by the Department of Health and Human Services indicate that the new benefits and services provided to Medicare recipients by the Affordable Care Act will save the typical senior over \$3,500 over the next decade. The Affordable Care Act strengthens Medicare and extends the solvency of the Medicare Trust Fund by 8 years – from 2016 to 2024 – by squeezing waste out of the system and making it more efficient, without reducing benefits. (Source: Levin's Congressional Site <http://ow.ly/xO99j>)

## **Financial Security**

*How would you help Americans build a financial nest egg for their retirement?*

### **AARP's Position:**

There should be more opportunities and incentives for all Americans to save for their retirement and financial security. Freedom from age discrimination is a fundamental right, and all Americans should be able to keep working and contributing to society regardless of age. Promoting affordable homeownership and safeguarding home equity are important to maintain and improve the independence and quality of life of Americans age 50-plus.

### **George Brikho (Rep):**

Our government imposes over 150,000 pages of federal regulations on businesses. It is naive to believe more regulations are needed to fix our economy. These laws serve one purpose, to protect corporations from competing in a free market. Our economy's main obstacle is government. American jobs are being killed by over regulation of small businesses and the burdens of complex federal tax laws. Many more American jobs will be outsourced overseas until we our economic problems. I will work with both parties to achieve meaningful economic reform. (Source: Brikho for Congress, <http://ow.ly/yVqEd>)

### **Sandy M. Levin (Dem):**

In households and neighborhoods throughout our area, we know that we have a long way to go before we make up the nearly nine million jobs destroyed in our country by the financial crisis and recession. Even with the creation of more than 5.2 million private sector jobs since the recovery began, and the resurgence in the auto industry that added 250,000 new jobs, the recovery is too important for government to sit on the sidelines. We simply must do more to accelerate economic growth and job creation. (Source: Levin's Congressional Site <http://ow.ly/xOgt1>)



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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