



## **US House New Mexico 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.



aarp.org/yourvote

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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.

#### Michael H. Frese (Rep):

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

## Michelle Lujan Grisham (Dem):

Michelle has spent a lifetime standing up for seniors. She knows that across New Mexico, many of our neighbors and relatives rely on Social Security and Medicare to make ends meet and provide the health care they need. New Mexico's seniors have paid their dues by contributing to these programs. They need know that Social Security and Medicare will be there for them. Michelle strongly opposes any effort to privatize Social Security and Medicare and believes we must ensure the solvency of these programs for the next generation without raising the retirement age or affecting benefit levels for current recipients. (Source: Grisham Campaign Website, http://ow.ly/xDiod)

### **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.

#### Michael H. Frese (Rep):

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## Michelle Lujan Grisham (Dem):

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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.

#### Michael H. Frese (Rep):

I'm running to free the American economy from job-killing regulation from Washington, DC. Only if we make our own economic decisions can we hope to leave our children, their children, and their children's children the opportunity to prosper the way we hope they will. If we vote to allow our economic decisions to be made in Washington, we will watch this nation spiral down from economic vitality into economic stagnation, and, as regulation tightens from seemingly benevolent to increasingly oppressive, finally into tyranny. (Source: Vote Mike Frese, http://ow.ly/xDjHv)

## Michelle Lujan Grisham (Dem):

I've spent my entire career fighting for New Mexico's seniors. [...] I worked to protect seniors from scam artists, helped seniors remain in their homes and addressed poor quality care in nursing homes, even going undercover to investigate reports of patient abuse. I also expanded critical services for seniors and fought for new programs to address end-of-life care issues and provide legal services to seniors throughout New Mexico. [...] I also believe we should empower home caregivers so that more seniors can continue to be active in their communities and healthy in their homes. (Source: Official House Website, http://ow.ly/xDi6V)



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**



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