



US House New Mexico 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.



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.

Jefferson L. Byrd (Rep):

We must keep the promises we have made to our seniors by protecting Medicare and Social Security. [...] I refuse to play class warfare with our seniors' retirement fund. We can protect the solvency of these programs by means testing, altering age requirements for new enrollees, and securing programs for future generations. (Source: Byrd Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/xF3Rb>)

Ben Ray Lujan (Dem):

Luján called any plans for privatization of Social Security or Medicare “dangerous ideas” that are too risky. “We need to be looking after Social Security and protecting it, and this notion of gambling with it in the market by privatizing it is a bad idea,” Luján said. (Source: Lujan Official Facebook, <http://ow.ly/xEWoZ>)

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.

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Ben Ray Lujan (Dem):

[After Medicare's enactment], generations of seniors have received health care that has contributed to their retirement security and dignity in their later years. I will continue to support efforts to strengthen this program for New Mexico's seniors today and into the future. Already, thanks to the Affordable Care Act, we have cut costs for prescription drugs and provided free preventive services for Medicare beneficiaries. (Source: Lujan Official Facebook, <http://ow.ly/xEWoZ>)

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.

Jefferson L. Byrd (Rep):

My main focus when I get to Washington is to fight for and introduce legislation that will stimulate America's economy and get New Mexicans back to work again. I will work to implement an ambitious "New Jobs New Mexico" plan that will reduce regulations and boost private sector jobs in industries important to Northern New Mexico. Simplifying our tax code and regulatory system will go a long way to creating a climate where businesses can grow and thrive. Northern New Mexicans are hardworking people and I know we can create good paying jobs for those in rural New Mexico. (Source: Byrd Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/xF3Rb>)

Ben Ray Lujan (Dem):

In these difficult economic times, Ben Ray Luján is working hard to get our economy back on track. He has supported tax cuts for families and small businesses, voted to provide tax credits for business that hire unemployed workers, and fought for Wall Street reform... Ben Ray is going to continue to cut taxes for the middle class, help empower small businesses to create jobs and work to get our economy back on track. (Source: Ben Ray Lujan for Congress, <http://ow.ly/crEcP>)



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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601 E Street NW
Washington, DC 20049

