



US House New York 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

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.

Tim H. Bishop (Dem):

Congressman Bishop opposes [...] plans to privatize Social Security. In 2008, retirees would have seen the value of their Social Security benefits plummet as the recession deepened. Instead of privatization, Congressman Bishop supports efforts to strengthen Social Security and ensure its solvency for current and future retirees. When seniors faced two consecutive years without a cost-of-living adjustment in their Social Security benefits, Congressman Bishop supported legislation to change the index used to calculate COLAs that better reflects seniors' buying habits. [...] Bishop supports efforts to preserve Social Security. (Source: Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/xYeiP>)

Lee M. Zeldin (Rep):

I firmly believe that we have a responsibility to honor and respect those who have spent their lives paving the way for generations to follow. [...] That's why I'll continue to fight to keep the promise of Social Security for our seniors. [...] (Source: Zeldin Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/zFUyH>)

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.

Tim H. Bishop (Dem):

Congressman Bishop [opposes a] Budget that changes Medicare into a voucher system and requires seniors to pay up to pay more for their health care. [...] Congressman Bishop has also supported efforts to strengthen Medicare by reducing waste, fraud, and abuse so that taxpayer dollars go towards providing seniors the health care services they need and deserve rather than to people looking to scam the federal government. (Source: Bishop Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/xYeiP>)

Lee M. Zeldin (Rep):

Tough decisions must be made to reform entitlement programs in order to address our nation's growing debt. But those decisions must not deny current beneficiaries the support they have relied upon for their golden years. Instead, these programs must be changed so that they can be made solvent for future beneficiaries. (Source: Zeldin Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/zFUyH>)

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.

Tim H. Bishop (Dem):

When seniors faced two consecutive years without a cost-of-living adjustment in their Social Security benefits, Congressman Bishop supported legislation to change the index used to calculate COLAs that better reflects seniors' buying habits. In addition, he also voted for legislation that would have given a \$250 check to Social Security recipients in lieu of a COLA for 2011. (Source: Bishop Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/yRmFL>)

Lee M. Zeldin (Rep):

I firmly believe that we have a responsibility to honor and respect those who have spent their lives paving the way for generations to follow. One way we can do that is to make sure that seniors' lifetime of hard work isn't eroded by the rising taxes, medical costs and other expenses that can make it difficult to make ends meet, keep their homes, and maintain the lifestyles they have built and planned for. [...] It's why I sponsored the nation's strongest property tax cap, to make it easier for seniors to stay in their homes instead of having to leave Long Island. (Source: Zeldin Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/zFUyH>)



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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