



# **US House New York District 14**

#### **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.



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## 2014 AARP Voters' Guide | US House New York District 14

# **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.

### Joseph Crowley (Dem):

With six out of 10 seniors relying on Social Security for more than half of their income, it is critical that we help seniors meet today's rising costs. From my seat on the Ways and Means Committee, I will continue to stand up for New York's seniors and be a strong advocate for Social Security, including fighting to ensure seniors receive an annual COLA increase and against efforts to privatize the program. (Source: Congressman Joe Crowley, http://ow.ly/bRUjw)

# **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.

### Joseph Crowley (Dem):

Medicare is a lifeline for millions of seniors in New York ... There's no doubt the federal government needs to make tough choices, but one of them should not be to turn Medicare inside out and leave seniors at the mercy of private insurance companies. We should be focused on lifting seniors up during these troubled times, not pushing them down... While spending reductions are necessary, we cannot – and should not – place the burden of these cuts on the backs of our Greatest Generation. We must continue to uphold the promise of Social Security and Medicare for today's seniors, and the next generation of Americans. (Source: Congressman Joe Crowley, http://ow.ly/bRU3W)

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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.

### Joseph Crowley (Dem):

Joe realizes that reducing barriers to investment, creating opportunities for small businesses, and providing equitable working conditions for all Americans can and should be part of our national economic policy...Joe has been a forceful advocate for increasing federal investments in job retraining initiatives and math, science and engineering education programming. Furthermore, Joe understands that our economic vitality depends, in part, upon local, state and federal governments investing capital in community initiatives, American small businesses and infrastructure – roads, bridges and airways. (Source: Congressman Joe Crowley, http://ow.ly/bRVlG)



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**



