



US House New York District 17

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.

Chris Day (Rep):

Social Security in its present form and with its current benefits must remain fully intact, with no adjustments to retirement age or any other cuts or changes for anyone already retired or near retirement. For future generations, including people just entering the workforce and far from retirement age, we must consider reforms such as raising their age of retirement, means testing, etc. We must also ensure that Social Security is not depleted through abuse of Social Security disability payments by those who have never paid into the system. (Source: Vote for Day, <http://ow.ly/zABtb>)

Nita M. Lowey (Dem):

Congresswoman Lowey has been a tireless advocate for protecting Social Security and employee pensions, including: Strongly opposing efforts to privatize Social Security; Supporting the 2012 cost-of-living increase that provides an additional \$50 a month for the average retiree in Westchester; Voting to shield Social Security from cuts in deficit reduction proposals; Leading the efforts to ensure family caregivers and women who are widows or divorced are treated fairly; and Protecting Social Security benefits from unfair taxation. (Source: Congresswoman Nita Lowey, <http://ow.ly/bQnRa>)

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.

Chris Day (Rep):

Medicare must be properly funded, but the biggest issues facing it are the costs themselves. We must control and lower the cost of healthcare through tort reform, increased competition for insurance on a true open market, repealing of the medical device tax, streamlining the drug approval process, et cetera. We must ensure that Medicare reimbursements are not simply cut without addressing those underlying issues, or it will drive quality doctors away from accepting Medicare. (Source: Vote for Day, <http://ow.ly/zABtb>)

Nita M. Lowey (Dem):

Ensuring senior citizens have access to high-quality health care is among our most basic responsibilities...Shifting health care costs on the backs of senior citizens in the name of deficit reduction is a dishonest and cynical approach to the serious economic challenges our nation faces...There is no doubt that Congress should work together to eliminate wasteful or duplicative spending. But raising costs for seniors by radically restructuring Medicare and Medicaid, which provide more efficient coverage than private insurance, is the wrong thing to do. (Source: Congresswoman Nita Lowey, <http://ow.ly/bQnJV>)

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.

Chris Day (Rep):

We must consider options such as ensuring that interest earnings on savings accounts and the safest bonds are untaxed as well as allowing deposits into savings accounts during a calendar year to be tax deductible, provided they remain in the account. We should also encourage taxation at all levels that is less focused on illiquid assets (property tax) and is more focused on actual income or liquid assets. (Source: Vote for Day, <http://ow.ly/zABtb>)

Nita M. Lowey (Dem):

Congresswoman Lowey...supports creating a National Infrastructure Bank, which would provide loans and bonds to finance the rehabilitation and rebuilding of critical infrastructure assets;... making the income tax cuts enacted in 2001 and 2003, and extended in 2010, permanent for middle-class families; providing the same transit tax benefit to commuters who use mass transit as those who drive to work; and Eliminating permanently the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT), which was originally conceived to ensure the wealthiest pay their fair share but affects more middle-class families every year. (Source: Congresswoman Nita Lowey, <http://ow.ly/bQqn7>)



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

