



## US House New York District 19

### **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](https://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.

### **Sean S. Eldridge (Dem):**

Sean will fight to protect the critical safety net in our country and honor the promises we've made to seniors. He will oppose cuts to Medicare and Social Security and will work to ensure the sustainability of these vital programs for generations to come. (Source: Eldridge Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/yrSIG>)

### **Chris P. Gibson (Rep):**

Similar to Medicare and Medicaid, Social Security is in need of structural reforms to guarantee the viability and longevity of the program. [...] In short, the demographic pressures on the system that have resulted from higher life expectancy and a post-war population boom have painted a dark picture for the long-term solvency of the program. Like Medicare, I believe we need to make several bipartisan reforms that put us on the path to solvency, but again can do it with no cuts to current beneficiaries. (Source: Gibson House Website, <http://ow.ly/y5yeF>)

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## 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.

### **Sean S. Eldridge (Dem):**

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### **Chris P. Gibson (Rep):**

[...] I have been a strong advocate for structural reforms to Medicare and Medicaid. I don't believe that any reforms should impose cuts to current beneficiaries but, if we act soon, we can reform and improve the program for those under the age of 55 and transition the changes in over time. [...] Congress has repeatedly cut reimbursement rates to doctors and providers in an order to save, which has only resulted in harmful incentives for waste. [...] In order to ensure the viability of our healthcare system and avoid a severe debt crisis, I support making bipartisan fundamental structural reforms to the system. (Source: Gibson House Website, <http://ow.ly/y5yeF>)

## **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.

### **Sean S. Eldridge (Dem):**

We all know that we need to grow our economy, and Sean knows firsthand what it takes to create good jobs and support small businesses. As the founder and president of Hudson River Ventures – a small business investment fund – Sean has created local jobs and grown small businesses throughout our region, including family- and veteran-owned companies. Sean will fight for common sense solutions in Congress that will create jobs and spur economic growth by investing in infrastructure, expanding access to high-speed internet, reforming our broken tax code, and training workers for the new economy. (Source: Eldridge Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/yrSIG>)

### **Chris P. Gibson (Rep):**

Reauthorizing the federal Older Americans Act would provide \$2 billion a year for five years to support important services for senior citizens, U.S. Rep. Chris Gibson said on Thursday. [...] [Gibson] said the act dates to 1965 and would provide support for senior nutrition services, family caregivers, community service employment and services to prevent abuse, neglect and exploitation of seniors. Gibson said legislation to reauthorize the act has been introduced in both the U.S. House and Senate. "This bill is really designed to provide supportive services down to the county level," Gibson said. (Source: Gibson Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/BhoHQ>)



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](http://aarp.org/yourvote).

## Voter Information Inside

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