



## US House New York District 25

### **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.

### **Mark W. Assini (Rep):**

AARP did extensive research but was unable to find any public statement on this issue by July 11, 2014.

### **Louise M. Slaughter (Dem):**

Congresswoman Slaughter...is committed to defeating all efforts that would jeopardize the critical protections of the safety-net, be it entrusting Social Security to the whims of the stock market or cuts in benefits. In October 2010, Congresswoman Slaughter joined like-minded House colleagues in sending a letter to President Obama expressing their strong support for Social Security and their view that it should be strengthened. The letter states: "We oppose any cuts to Social Security benefits, including raising the retirement age. We also oppose any effort to privatize Social Security, in whole or in part." (Source: Congresswoman Louise Slaughter, <http://ow.ly/c4nvn>)

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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.

### **Mark W. Assini (Rep):**

"It is time to open up health insurance competition across state lines to drive down prices and restore funding for Medicare Advantage and Medicare." (Source: Assini Campaign Site, <http://goo.gl/SSK76N>)

### **Louise M. Slaughter (Dem):**

Louise has spoken out against the [...] proposal[s] to turn Medicare into a Voucher system, ending the program as we know it and forcing seniors to negotiate on their own with private health insurance market while paying increased health care costs of more than \$6,000 per year. Louise has resisted the harmful plan [...] that would cut Medicaid funding by 34%, or \$1.4 billion. This deplorable proposed cut would slash health care funding for the poor and for the elderly who live in nursing homes and assisted living centers. (Source: Slaughter House Website, <http://ow.ly/y6ekt>)

## **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.

### **Mark W. Assini (Rep):**

"Reduce regulations crushing business" (Source: Assini Campaign Site, <http://goo.gl/NyW8D8>)

### **Louise M. Slaughter (Dem):**

Slaughter has a long record of fostering job growth and supporting businesses in Western New York. One of Rep. Slaughter's highest priorities is directing federal funding back to the Western New York region and her district. This funding has helped local universities better prepare our workforce, companies expand, municipalities invest in necessary infrastructure improvements, and non-profit organizations move our community forward. In turn, private industry has been able to create jobs even in these tough economic times. (Source: Rep. Slaughter's Congressional Website, <http://ow.ly/yRZeF>)



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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