



# **US House Ohio District 6**

### **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 Ohio District 6

# **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.

## Jennifer D. Garrison (Dem):

Social Security is a promise to our seniors. I strongly oppose efforts... to privatize Social Security, which would risk your money in the stock market. Privatizing Social Security would help Wall Street bankers make more money, but it would hurt seniors in Main Streets throughout Ohio...I will fight against any such plan. (Source: JenniferGarrison.com, http://goo.gl/a3Gvxt)

## Bill Johnson (Rep):

[Bill Johnson's] Mom is a Social Security and Medicare beneficiary. She, like so many current seniors, paid into these critical programs, and the federal government has an obligation to ensure that Medicare will not change, in any way, for them - and that it will be fully funded. He will also continue fighting to ensure that Social Security will be there for our seniors as well. In fact, he is supporting legislation ...that would stop Congress from raiding the Social Security Trust fund and spending those dollars on other, unrelated programs or pet projects. (Source: BillJohnsonLeads.com, http://goo.gl/f6wMQC)

# **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.

### Jennifer D. Garrison (Dem):

I do not support any cuts to Medicare. [I oppose attempts to] cut Medicare by \$700 billion dollars and turn the program into a voucher system that would devastate our seniors. (Source: JenniferGarrison.com, http://goo.gl/a3Gvxt)

## Bill Johnson (Rep):

Bill Johnson will continue working hard to strengthen and protect Medicare for our current seniors and future generations. ... His Mom is a Social Security and Medicare beneficiary. She, like so many current seniors, paid into these critical programs, and the federal government has an obligation to ensure that Medicare will not change, in any way, for them - and that it will be fully funded. (Source: BillJohnsonLeads.com, http://goo.gl/f6wMQC)

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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.

## Jennifer D. Garrison (Dem):

"House Bill 398 is designed to increase opportunities for Ohioans to participate in the Home First program, which lets Medicaid-eligible citizens receive services at home instead of going into a nursing facility...This bill helps eliminate the waiting lists in-home care. Providing services at home costs an estimated \$20,000 annually per person, compared to \$60,000 annually in a nursing facility, saving the State of Ohio up to 66% per individual in Medicaid expenses. I co-sponsored and voted 'yes' on HB 398 as it passed out of the House." (Source: Marietta Times, http://ow.ly/zAUS6)

## Bill Johnson (Rep):

Growing the economy requires dedication to traditional American economic values. We must remove barriers so that small business owners can do what they do best create jobs. This includes eliminating burdensome, costly regulations that strangle our job creators. 'No' cannot be a final answer to any businesses request for permission to innovate and compete. Johnson believes that federal agencies must be partners in progress, not roadblocks to prosperity. Americans must be allowed to innovate, as is our heritage, and compete in the global economy. We must create wealth, not redistribute it. (Source: BillJohnsonLeads.com, http://goo.gl/dd1Exi)



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**



