



## US House Ohio District 8

### **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.

### **John A. Boehner (Rep):**

I think raising the retirement age, going out twenty years, you're not affecting anyone close to retirement, and eventually getting the retirement age to 70, is a step that needs to be taken...Secondly, instead of using the wage inflator, increases in social security should be based on the consumer price index. I think it's a more accurate reflection...And thirdly, I think we need to look at the American people, and explain to them that we're broke. If you have substantial non-Social Security income while you're retired, why are we paying you at a time when we're broke? We just need to be honest with people. (Source: Tribune-Review Interview, <http://bcove.me/ywfordltg>)

### **Thomas S. Poetter (Dem):**

I would not support any cuts to Social Security, Medicare, or Medicaid. We have to work together to carve out strong support for these programs in our federal budget, to trim administrative costs and produce savings, and to make sure that seniors and citizens in poverty have the support they need. We can cut the budget in other places, but not here. I will work as hard as I can to protect Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. They are strong, existing, vital programs that guarantee the health and well-being of our economy and our citizens. (Source: [Poetterforcongress.com](http://Poetterforcongress.com), <http://goo.gl/GwBBou>)

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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.

### **John A. Boehner (Rep):**

[...] Our plan, the House-passed "Path to Prosperity" budget, would keep the current Medicare system in place for anyone over age 54. [...] For younger folks, we transition to a system called "premium support." [...] It is still Medicare, and the government will still pay for health care, but future beneficiaries will have the ability to choose the health care plan that is right for them. [...] For those with a lower income, the premium support provided by the government is higher under our plan. The same goes for patients who are ill. As for the very wealthy, well, they will pay a higher share of the premium. (Source: AARP Op-Ed, <http://ow.ly/y8Y2A>)

### **Thomas S. Poetter (Dem):**

Medicare should be inviolable. It is a promise we made to our elderly and most vulnerable citizens and should not be privatized for any reason whatsoever. The Medicare trust fund serves 50 million people and is funded through payroll taxes. It is solvent until 2026. It will only improve its solvency as the Affordable Care Act gets enacted and fully implemented, because as the market grows costs will be lowered for everyone, including Medicare recipients. There is no reason to touch it at all. (Source: [Poetterforcongress.com](http://Poetterforcongress.com), <http://goo.gl/Yc9mVR>)

## **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.

### **John A. Boehner (Rep):**

John has a record of making workers' retirements more secure – he led a bipartisan group of lawmakers in passing the first overhaul of our nation's pension laws in more than thirty years: the Pension Protection Act. The Pension Protection Act fixed outdated pension rules that no longer serve the interests of workers and retirees who are counting on their savings to be there when they retire. (Source: Boehner Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/y8Wfd>)

### **Thomas S. Poetter (Dem):**

Our economy is recovering, but it has been slow moving and difficult for many who are out of work, or can't find good jobs outside the service sector, or have given up looking all together. We need to emphasize job training programs and accessibility to post-secondary education, both of which are almost always necessary for individual economic success in the 21st Century. We need to have a stronger federal emphasis on these areas, making job training more effective and easier to access, and tuition support more readily available to citizens who want to go to or return to college. (Source: Poetterforcongress.com, <http://goo.gl/SZa5yu>)



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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