



# **US House Ohio District 11**

#### **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 11

# **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.

### Marcia L. Fudge (Dem):

"On one of my visits home, (my senior citizens) gave to me a package of 25,000 signatures asking if I would pledge to support Social Security. I want them to know I'm going to pledge to do that, but I also want to say to them, yes we need to make some changes, but it is not a Ponzi scheme. I want for them to understand those who get by, keep food and shelter because of Social Security. It is not a Ponzi scheme. Yes, we need to make some changes, but you know what Mr. Speaker, we just need to raise the cap. We don't need to say that it can't be fixed; that it's broken. We need to raise the cap." (Source: Marcia Fudge House Website, http://ow.ly/csKKM)

### Mark Zetzer (Rep):

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

## **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.

## Marcia L. Fudge (Dem):

Medicare is needed now more than ever. In 1965, only 51 percent of seniors had health care coverage. Thanks to Medicare, virtually all seniors have health care coverage today. Moreover, the coverage corresponds to a sharp decrease in the number of seniors living below the poverty line. In 1965, nearly 30% of seniors lived below the poverty line. Today, that number is less than 8%.... I will continue to listen to my constituents and fight to preserve Medicare. There are responsible ways to deal with the deficit, but slashing funds from Medicare is simply not one of them. (Source: Marcia Fudge House Website, http://ow.ly/csJZn

## Mark Zetzer (Rep):

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

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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.

### Marcia L. Fudge (Dem):

Our small businesses are the backbone of our local economy, and are integral to America's economic recovery. Yet, without consumer demand, our small businesses will not be able to flourish, which is why a strong middle class is so important. We must ensure the viability of these businesses. I will continue to fight for access to better credit sources for new and existing companies. I have conducted a series of Small Business Seminars to connect local owners with needed resources to encourage lenders to provide small businesses with the credit necessary to operate, expand, and add jobs. (Source: Marcia Fudge Website, http://ow.ly/xAAHk)

#### Mark Zetzer (Rep):

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



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**



