



## US House Ohio District 15

### **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.

### **Steve E. Stivers (Rep):**

The promises made to our seniors must be promises kept, which is why I oppose privatizing social security and oppose raising the retirement age as a way of stretching benefits. We must find ways to reduce costs and improve the quality of services we provide to our seniors. The focus must be on efficiency and effectiveness, eliminating waste, fraud and abuse in the system, and providing our seniors with the benefits they have been promised. (Source: Steve Stivers 2010 Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/ct1Wg>)

### **Richard S. Wharton (Dem):**

Every American deserves a secure, healthy, and dignified retirement. I understand the importance of safeguarding Social Security and Medicare for this reason. My parents meticulously saved for their retirement, but sadly it is being spent much faster than they anticipated. Several years ago my mother was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and last year was placed in a memory care facility. Their story is an example of why we need to protect Social Security and Medicare for our seniors so it's there when they need it. (Source: Wharton Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/xFpnG>)

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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.

### **Steve E. Stivers (Rep):**

I am committed to standing up for our seniors and preserving Medicare in order to meet their needs. Promises made must be promises kept, therefore the plan I support does not change Medicare for anyone who is 55 years of age and older. However, we need to act now to stop Medicare from going bankrupt in 12 years. Legislation I voted in favor of preserves and protects Medicare with true choice and competition for future generations, while also eliminating waste, fraud, and abuse in the system. (Source: Stevestivers.com, <http://ow.ly/xAIVi>)

### **Richard S. Wharton (Dem):**

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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.

### **Steve E. Stivers (Rep):**

Getting Americans back to work must be the No. 1 priority, and to do so, we must get our companies and small businesses engaged in the fight to create jobs. That means providing businesses with more certainty on taxes, regulation, healthcare costs, and energy costs. It is also important to get people trained for the jobs of tomorrow by linking unemployment benefits to workforce development training today. I will continue to stand up for our small businesses, work to put a stop to out-of-control spending, and help create incentives for investment and job creation here at home. (Source: Stevestivers.com, <http://ow.ly/xAIVi>)

### **Richard S. Wharton (Dem):**

[...] Slow growth and the inability of Congress to work with the president have harmed the American worker and potentially set back a generation of younger Americans [...]. I support treating American workers with as much respect as that shown corporate executives in the halls of Congress. We cannot backslide on U.S. workers' right to organize to collectively bargain for wages, safety and benefits. Discrimination against any class of people in the workplace such as the lingering problem of women receiving less pay for the same work as men has no place in 21st century America. (Source: Wharton Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/xFpnG>)



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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