



## US House Ohio District 16

### **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.

### **Pete Crossland (Dem):**

I will firmly oppose any effort to privatize or significantly reduce benefits in [Social Security and Medicare]. Together they form a safety net, which is ultimately important to nearly everyone. (Source: Crossland Official Website, <http://ow.ly/xFNNE>)

### **Jim B. Renacci (Rep):**

While I strongly believe in the need to maintain a strong and viable Social Security safety net for America's seniors, there is no question that the federal government must implement reforms to address the growing fiscal crisis that is facing the Social Security balance sheet. [...] The tipping point for Social Security arrived years sooner than many expected due to a broken fiscal agenda in Washington [...]. It is imperative that leaders in Washington ensure that Social Security benefits are protected and that needed reforms are brought to bear that would not raise taxes or privatize the system. (Source: Renacci Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/xFsvF>)

## **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.

### **Pete Crossland (Dem):**

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### **Jim B. Renacci (Rep):**

"The debt is going to keep growing. We can't reduce the debt until we change the perception of spending," he said. "A lot of our spending goes toward Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security. [...] We have to make sure that these programs are still around for [the next generation], but we also have to change some things about them. We need to look at those programs and readjust them." (Source: The Post, <http://ow.ly/xFvhh>)

## **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.

### **Pete Crossland (Dem):**

Government decisions have a huge impact on the economy. [...] I will support a major government program to rebuild our aging infrastructure and create jobs. Greater utilization of productive spending and tax cuts that clearly work is basic to furthering growth, jobs and middle class vitality. I also support the effort to raise the minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour. (Source: Crossland Official Website, <http://ow.ly/xFNNE>)

### **Jim B. Renacci (Rep):**

Having created over 1,500 jobs right here in northeast Ohio and employed over 3,000 people, I know what it takes to grow American business and keep and create jobs for American workers. Like most Americans who have spent their career in the private sector, I understand that seventy percent of the jobs in our economy are created by small business owners—not by the government. [...] For America's economy to recover we need elected officials who understand that the core strength of our economy lies with American workers and employers, not more career politicians who believe that Washington is the answer. (Source: Renacci Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/xFNz2>)



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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