



US House Pennsylvania District 7

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

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.

Mary E. Balchunis (Dem):

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

Patrick L. Meehan (Rep):

Pat recognizes the important role Social Security plays in providing an income safety net for seniors is only likely to grow as more and more employers shift away from pension and other defined benefits for retirees. Changing the rules in the middle of the game by pushing back the retirement age to 70 is inherently unfair as it unfairly penalizes those approaching retirement. Pat believes we must not take a piecemeal approach to strengthening Social Security, but rather take a comprehensive, long-term approach to reform. (Source: Pat Meehan Campaign Website; <http://ow.ly/ciZot>)

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.

Mary E. Balchunis (Dem):

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

Patrick L. Meehan (Rep):

Pat Meehan is extremely concerned about the adverse impact that lower reimbursement rates from Medicare may have on the ability of seniors to gain access to doctors. As Congress continues to make piecemeal adjustments to reimbursement rates, doctors are increasingly deciding not to accept Medicare patients. This is also part of Pat's concern with the health care legislation. (Source: Pat Meehan Campaign Website; <http://ow.ly/ciZot>)

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.

Mary E. Balchunis (Dem):

I was raised to value hard work, and believe that if someone is willing to work hard, then nothing should stand in the way of he or she being able to support a family. I will not stand by while those working are not able to support themselves, which is why I will fight tirelessly for a decent minimum wage-- a wage that can bring dignity back to those who believe in the value of hard work. (Source: Maryellenforcongress.com, <http://ow.ly/xxvvr>)

Patrick L. Meehan (Rep):

[...]We must focus on providing entrepreneurs and small business owners with the tools they need to succeed. On the federal level, we should be doing more to free small businesses of overly burdensome regulations that restricts innovation and growth and a tax structure that punishes entrepreneurs rather than rewards them for creating jobs. (Source: Pat Meehan Campaign Website; <http://ow.ly/ciZNs>)



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

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