



US House Texas District 13

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.

Michael G. Minter (Dem):

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

Mac Thornberry (Rep):

In only six years, Social Security will start running a deficit. The consequences of these changes in our population must be confronted honestly and directly. We must look for ways to protect benefits for those receiving them now and for those who will turn retirement age over the next several years. At the same time, we must also look for ways to ensure that younger workers can receive benefits without huge tax increases or dramatic cuts in benefits for everyone. (Source: Congressman Thornberry's official site; <http://ow.ly/cjdvv>)

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.

Michael G. Minter (Dem):

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

Mac Thornberry (Rep):

When the Medicare program was created in 1965, it was based on versions of health insurance which were available at that time. Clearly, health care has changed a lot since then, and Medicare should be reformed and updated[...] As Congress considers reforms to Medicare, I believe both parties should work to find a solution that ensures the Americans who are eligible have access to these benefits when they need them. We cannot ignore the looming impact that entitlements[...] will have on federal spending. Unless changes to these programs are made, benefits will have to be cut or taxpayers will have to pay more for them. (Source: Congressman Thornberry's official site; <http://ow.ly/cjdvv>)

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.

Michael G. Minter (Dem):

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

Mac Thornberry (Rep):

While the federal government can encourage economic growth and help those who have lost their jobs, we cannot borrow and spend our way back to prosperity. Instead, we should first focus on helping small businesses, which created 60 to 80 percent of new jobs over the last ten years. In Texas alone, small businesses now account for 98.7 percent of the state's employers. The most effective way to help them is to lower or eliminate taxes like the death tax, make health care more affordable, and reduce regulation. (Source: Congressman Thornberry's official site; <http://ow.ly/cjdXA>)



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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