



## US House Texas District 17

### **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.

### **Bill H. Flores (Rep):**

Our Nation's largest budget challenges are wrapped up in these entitlement programs. Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security were all created as a safety net for the most vulnerable in our society. Over the decades, however, expanded eligibility and benefits and longer life expectancy have expanded this net to its breaking point[...] Because of this, I support the reforms[...] in the House Budget Plan for Fiscal Year 2012 (FY2012)[...] The plan does not do anything to Social Security, but simply asks that it be reformed at some time in the near future. (Source: Congressman Flores' official site; <http://ow.ly/cjjHh>)

### **Nicholas O. Haynes (Dem):**

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

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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.

### **Bill H. Flores (Rep):**

Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security were all created as a safety net for the most vulnerable in our society...expanded eligibility and benefits and longer life expectancy have expanded this net to its breaking point[...] Because of this, I support the reforms to Medicare[...] found in the House Budget Plan for Fiscal Year 2012 (FY2012)[...] The House budget plan will not make any changes to Medicare for Americans 55 and older. For younger workers, when they reach eligibility, Medicare will provide a Medicare payment and a list of guaranteed coverage options from which recipients can choose a plan that best suits their needs. (Source: Congressman Flores' official site; <http://ow.ly/cjjHh>)

### **Nicholas O. Haynes (Dem):**

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

## **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.

### **Bill H. Flores (Rep):**

Coming from the private sector to Congress, I know that America can and will become prosperous beyond imagination and millions of new private-sector jobs will be created if we would just get back to our founding, free-market principles and end big government and wasteful spending. (Source: Congressman Flores' official site. <http://ow.ly/cjked>)

### **Nicholas O. Haynes (Dem):**

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](http://aarp.org/yourvote).

## Voter Information Inside

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