



US House Texas District 34

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.

Larry S. Smith (Rep):

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

Filemon Vela (Dem):

Without question the current generation of Americans approaching retirement should receive the benefits they were promised at the age of 65. By all accounts Medicare and Social Security funds become insolvent during the next 20-25 years and we must make sure it remains fiscally sound for the next generation. But what I won't support are efforts that would end Medicare as we know it and privatize Social Security. (Source: Filemon Vela, Democrat for Congress; <http://ow.ly/co5ym>)

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.

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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.

Larry S. Smith (Rep):

Small businesses are the backbone and the engine that powers that economy. A burdensome regulatory climate will reduce the entrepreneurial spirit needed to keep our economy moving forward and creating jobs. (Source: Smith Campaign Site <http://ow.ly/xZj8z>)

Filemon Vela (Dem):

I support current white house proposals that provide tax cuts for small businesses and give them the incentive to hire workers. Proposals that would give tax breaks to companies who hire people who have been unemployed for longer than six month also make plain economic sense. Given our protracted unemployment struggles we should invest in improving our nation's infrastructure by funding public works projects that would bring our roads and schools into the 21st century, while injecting additional funding into the hiring of teachers, firefighters (Source: Filemon Vela, Democrat for Congress; <http://ow.ly/co5ym>)



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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