



US House Virginia District 2

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.

Suzanne D. Patrick (Dem):

Suzanne firmly opposes any effort to privatize Social Security or turn Medicare into a voucher program. As the primary caretaker for her aging parents, Suzanne understands how important these earned benefits are to seniors on a fixed income. Instead of gutting these programs or subjecting them to the volatility of Wall Street, Suzanne believes in protecting the long-term viability of Social Security and Medicare through strategic investments and common sense reforms so that all seniors can enjoy security, dignity, and access to quality, affordable health care in retirement. (Source: Patrick's Campaign Site, <http://ow.ly/xTkCn>)

Scott Rigell (Rep):

The federal government also has an obligation to make good on its promise and pay out Social Security benefits that many depend on and expected when calculating the cost of their retirement. That is why I do not support changing Social Security for today's seniors or anyone that is on the verge of retirement. Instead, we should enact incremental changes to the program for young Americans to ensure that Social Security remains viable for future generations, while giving young workers enough time to adequately prepare for their own retirements. (Source: Rigell Campaign Site, <http://ow.ly/xTjvA>)

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.

Suzanne D. Patrick (Dem):

Suzanne firmly opposes any effort to privatize Social Security or turn Medicare into a voucher program. As the primary caretaker for her aging parents, Suzanne understands how important these earned benefits are to seniors on a fixed income. Instead of gutting these programs or subjecting them to the volatility of Wall Street, Suzanne believes in protecting the long-term viability of Social Security and Medicare through strategic investments and common sense reforms so that all seniors can enjoy security, dignity, and access to quality, affordable health care in retirement. (Source: Patrick's Campaign Site, <http://ow.ly/xTkCn>)

Scott Rigell (Rep):

Unfortunately the recent changes that have been made to Medicare have been damaging. In 2010, Congress passed and the President signed a government-run health care law that cut more than \$500 billion from Medicare. This law also put in place an unaccountable, unelected board of fifteen bureaucrats known as the Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB), and gave it the power to make coverage decisions on health care which cannot be appealed. We must strongly oppose these cuts in Medicare while implementing market-based reforms that provide more choices for America's future seniors. (Source: Rigell Campaign Site, <http://ow.ly/xTjvA>)

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.

Suzanne D. Patrick (Dem):

From her experience advising international corporations navigating the global marketplace, to starting and successfully running her own small business, Suzanne has the knowledge and skills necessary to spur local economic development and job creation here in Virginia. She'll support fair trade and use her knowledge of global markets to expand opportunities for our local port. Suzanne believes investments in infrastructure are essential—not only to create jobs now, but also to lay the groundwork for future economic growth. (Source: Patrick's Campaign Site, <http://ow.ly/xTkCn>)

Scott Rigell (Rep):

Finally, we must find new opportunities to grow our national economy, and energy is our number one way to do this. Simply opening up Virginia's coastal energy for environmentally-responsible energy harvesting would create 18,000 jobs, move us toward energy independence and bring in tax revenue for our schools and roads! Energy development in Virginia has broad bipartisan support. (Source: Rigell Campaign Site, <http://ow.ly/xTk6k>)



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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