



## US House Virginia District 5

### **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.

### **Lawrence Gaughan (Dem):**

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

### **Robert Hurt (Rep):**

Our aging population and the retirement of the Baby Boomer generation is straining the Social Security system, as there are not enough current workers to support all the retirees receiving benefits. The Social Security Actuary has said that by 2037, the Social Security Trust Fund will be unable to pay full benefits. This demonstrates that inaction is not an option. I believe that we must take steps to save and protect Social Security for both this generation and the next, while balancing the need to rein in out of control government spending. (Source: Hurt's Congressional Site <http://ow.ly/xTpJV>)

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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.

### **Lawrence Gaughan (Dem):**

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

### **Robert Hurt (Rep):**

That is why I support a plan that makes no changes to Medicare for persons age 55 and older while improving and strengthening Medicare and reducing our future debt burden. Such a plan would stabilize the program by eliminating billions of dollars in waste, fraud, and abuse in the Medicare system. The plan would also get the government out of the doctor-patient relationship and allow seniors to make their own health care decisions instead of allowing Washington bureaucrats to make those choices. (Source: Hurt's Congressional Site <http://ow.ly/xTpJV>)

## **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.

### **Lawrence Gaughan (Dem):**

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

### **Robert Hurt (Rep):**

In order to get our economy back on track it is vital that the message coming out of Washington be one that fosters an environment of economic certainty; we must remove Washington as a roadblock to job creation. As a Nelson County farmer explained it, the greatest barrier to jobs is the federal government. (Source: Hurt's Congressional Site <http://ow.ly/xTqaN>)



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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