



## US House Virginia District 8

### **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.

### **Donald S. Beyer Jr. (Dem):**

I oppose any effort to privatize Social Security. Privatization schemes would link Social Security to the stock market, and that means monthly benefits could go up or down with the market. (Source: Beyer Campaign Site <http://ow.ly/xTwYL>)

### **Micah K. Edmond (Rep):**

Reduce Social Security spending immediately through means testing and for the future by phasing in the age of eligibility for future generations. (Source: Edmond for Congress, <http://ow.ly/z3VfD>)

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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.

### **Donald S. Beyer Jr. (Dem):**

I oppose the proposal in the Ryan Budget that would turn Medicare into a private voucher system. Medicare works well, and we need to do all we can to improve and strengthen it. (Source: Beyer Campaign Site <http://ow.ly/xTwYL>)

### **Micah K. Edmond (Rep):**

Entitlement Reforms – Move to the Chained CPI for all inflation-indexed programs, means test Social Security and Medicare, Phase in the age of eligibility for Social Security and Medicare. (Source: Edmond Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/z86JF>)

## **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.

### **Donald S. Beyer Jr. (Dem):**

I believe Congress should immediately pass President Obama's infrastructure bill. We not only need to rebuild aging roads and bridges, but this will provide good jobs and help our economy. I also strongly support the proposal to increase the minimum wage to \$10.10. The nation's minimum wage has not kept pace with inflation, and the current hourly minimum is simply not sufficient or fair. A full-time worker earning the minimum wage makes \$15,080 a year, which is below federal poverty guidelines for a family of any size. (Source: Beyer Campaign Site <http://ow.ly/xTwYL>)

### **Micah K. Edmond (Rep):**

The increasing debt and interest on both threatens our ability to strengthen the middle class, invest in public infrastructure and future generations and leaves us with only the national security we can afford versus what we need. [...] We can balance our budget in ten years in a way that does not disrupt our fragile economic recovery in the short run and allows us to grow our economy and create jobs, strengthen the middle class, invest in the future and protect our national security. Until we do something to check this unsustainable debt and interest the American Dream and our national security remains under threat. (Source: Edmond Campaign Website, <http://goo.gl/wotPNp>)



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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AARP

601 E Street NW  
Washington, DC 20049

