



US House Washington District 4

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.

Clint B. Didier (Rep):

[Didier would] phase out Social Security in favor of a system of tax-free individual retirement accounts. (Source: Seattle Times interview, <http://ow.ly/yIhbF>)

Daniel M. Newhouse (Rep):

When you paid into Social Security and Medicare throughout your working life, your government made a promise to you that those programs would be there for you when you retire. In Congress I will make sure government keeps its promise. The biggest threat to Social Security is our federal budget deficit. For years, politicians have raided the Social Security Trust Fund to pay for their pet projects. I will fight for a Constitutional Balanced Budget Amendment to keep Social Security solvent. (Source: Newhouse's Campaign Site, <http://ow.ly/xVAEx>)

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.

Clint B. Didier (Rep):

"We've got to get rid of this 'protecting the weak.' If we keep the weak alive all the time it eats up the strong, and then our economy will never come back," he said after a tea-party forum earlier this month in Bellingham. That means businesses — including farms — should be allowed to fail in the free market and social programs for the poor should be slashed. He'd cut Medicaid, Medicare, welfare and food stamps, too. "If you have children, you take care of them until they can take care of themselves. It shouldn't be anyone else's obligation except yours," he said. (Source: Seattle Times, <http://ow.ly/yIhbF>)

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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.

Clint B. Didier (Rep):

I believe in the free market and free enterprise. Excessive regulation and taxation suppresses the private sector's ability to create wealth. Our economy works best when our citizens are allowed to keep the fruits of their own labor. With lower taxes, businesses have more money to invest and create jobs. Government doesn't create wealth or jobs. (Source: Didier Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/yIhOF>)

Daniel M. Newhouse (Rep):

I've worked on my family farm most of my life. I understand what it means to run a business, and I know that for Americans to create jobs we must get government out of the way. In Congress I will work to eliminate red tape and create an environment where jobs can grow. (Source: Newhouse's Campaign Site, <http://ow.ly/xVAEx>)



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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