



## US House Washington District 10

### **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.

### **Denny Heck (Dem):**

"In the past year we've seen a renewed effort... to dismantle Medicare and privatize Social Security. These vital programs have provided needed medical assistance for millions of American seniors and have lifted millions more out of poverty. Congress needs to come up with ways of fixing these programs that don't involve stripping seniors of benefits or coverage."(Source: Votesmart.com, <http://ow.ly/xVTxG>)

### **Joyce McDonald (Rep):**

I will protect Social Security and Medicare for our seniors who worked hard and paid taxes all their lives. (Source: WA Voter's Guide, <http://ow.ly/yIesK>)

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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.

### **Denny Heck (Dem):**

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I will protect Social Security and Medicare for our seniors who worked hard and paid taxes all their lives. (Source: WA Voter's Guide, <http://ow.ly/yIesK>)

## **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.

### **Denny Heck (Dem):**

[...] Congress needs to do more to make sure that those in the middle class – and those trying to get into it – get a fair deal when they're trying to make a living, raise a family and save for retirement[...] Congress also needs to make sure that the special interests on Wall Street are no longer allowed to engage in the financial shenanigans that caused the recent economic crisis. Finally, Congress must work much harder to get the spiraling national deficit under control, but must not do so on the backs of working families and those hit hardest by the recent recession. (Source: Heck 2012 Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/yIdb5>)

### **Joyce McDonald (Rep):**

She's made job creation and retention one of her top priorities for Washington State. Joyce will continue to work to ensure that we have high-paying jobs for our families here at home. Joyce is a strong advocate of government of the people, and understands that smaller government and lower taxes helps the rest of us do what we do best: spur the economy, create jobs, and spend quality time making our communities and families stronger and healthier. (Source: McDonald Campaign Site, <http://ow.ly/xVUQT>)



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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