



## US Senate, Georgia

#### 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

#### 2014 AARP Voters' Guide | US Senate, Georgia

### **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.

#### Michelle Nunn (D):

Congress also needs to confront the issue of mandatory spending programs, including Social Security and Medicare, which take up approximately 60% of the budget. [...] The trustees of the Medicare trust project that the hospital insurance portion of Medicare could be depleted by 2026; and Social Security will be forced to cut benefits by 23% in 2033 if nothing is done. We must undertake bipartisan entitlement reform to preserve Medicare and Social Security for those currently in or near retirement, take action to strengthen these programs for the future. (Source: Nunn Campaign Website, http://ow.ly/ybspp)

#### David A. Perdue (R):

"...we have a debt that's larger than our economy. It's the No. 1 threat to our national security. That's bad enough, \$17 trillion. But we have another \$86 to \$100 trillion dollars coming at us in future federal unfunded liabilities related to Social Security, Medicare and pension and benefits for federal employees. [...]" Perdue's solution is honoring obligations to anyone already receiving Social Security benefits, but changing the benefits for anyone coming into the workforce. "Their deal is going to have to be different". Perdue would make the same changes to Medicare. (Source: Neighbor Newspaper, http://ow.ly/ybpwH)

### 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.

#### **Michelle Nunn (D):**

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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.

#### Michelle Nunn (D):

We need government policies that promote a strong middle class, build self-sufficiency for low-income families, and ensure that every Georgian has a chance to become a productive and engaged citizen. We must invest in our infrastructure, ensure that our educational system at every level is teaching the skills our young people need to succeed in a rapidly changing economy, and reverse the downward trends in basic research and development funding. We also have to create a simpler tax code and roll back unnecessary regulations that impede business development. (Source: Nunn Campaign Website, http://ow.ly/ybvuI)

#### David A. Perdue (R):

In the midst of a terrible economy, this would be the worst possible time to raise taxes on anyone. Too many families and too many businesses are struggling to get by. I will not support a tax increase of any kind. Furthermore, the federal tax code is too complicated and misaligned. It should be completely overhauled as a means to promote growth and encourage more domestic economic investment. (Source: Perdue Senate Website, http://ow.ly/ybq1z)



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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