



US Senate, Idaho

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.

Nels Mitchell (D):

I strongly support Social Security, Medicare and Veteran's benefits and would fight efforts to cut or privatize those important programs. (Source: Idaho Statesmen, <http://ow.ly/xjbZx>)

James E. Risch (R):

Social Security not only serves as a retirement system, but also as a provider of disability payments and benefits to survivors and dependents. Changes to the original Depression-era program have made the program financially unsustainable under current policy. To make these programs sound for future generations we must begin reforming these entitlements now, while we are still able to make gradual changes and avoid lower benefits or massive tax increases that will severely impact beneficiaries in years to come. (Source: Risch Campaign Site, <http://ow.ly/xj4lm>)

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.

Nels Mitchell (D):

My parents were part of America's "greatest generation." I know how hard they – and millions like them – worked to achieve the American dream. Seniors should have the resources and independence to enjoy the quality of life we as Idahoans and Americans enjoy... I will not waver in my support for Medicare and Social Security benefits. (Source: Mitchell Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/xjcxj>)

James E. Risch (R):

I do not favor any cut to the current recipients of social security, Medicare, veterans' benefits, or those who are soon to become recipients. Those promised benefits have been earned and paid for by the recipients and are a legal and moral obligation to them. (Source: Idaho Statesmen, <http://ow.ly/xjbZx>)

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.

Nels Mitchell (D):

My first priority is jobs and the economy. I would be an advocate for Idaho's economy and living wage jobs; there is a lot that a Senator working for Idaho can do. I would support and fight for funding for INL... I would be a staunch defender of Mountain Home Air Force Base and other federal facilities. (Source: Idaho Statesmen, <http://ow.ly/xjbZx>)

James E. Risch (R):

As Idaho's Governor and Lt. Governor, my top priority was always quality jobs for hardworking families. As U.S. Senator, I continue this fight. Jobs are created by the private sector and not by the government. In recent years, the government has pursued policies that have slowed private sector job growth. Government regulations, higher taxes, and Obamacare have cut the growth of the economy and the expansion of small businesses. As ranking member of the Small Business Committee, I fight successfully to change those policies. (Source: Idaho Statesmen, <http://ow.ly/xjbZx>)



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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