



US Senate, Massachusetts

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.

Brian J. Herr (R):

AARP did extensive research but was unable to find any public statement on this issue by July 11, 2014.

Edward J. Markey (D):

Ed is committed to our seniors – that means protecting Social Security and Medicare and ensuring that every senior can retire with dignity and respect. Time and again, Ed has fought to protect Social Security and Medicare, which provide retirement security to more than one million people in Massachusetts. He opposes any changes to Social Security that would reduce benefits for our nation's seniors, including misguided proposals to raise the retirement age or reduce cost of living adjustments. (Source: Edmarkey.com, <http://ow.ly/x16Q7>)

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.

Brian J. Herr (R):

AARP did extensive research but was unable to find any public statement on this issue by July 11, 2014.

Edward J. Markey (D):

Ed [...] opposes [...] efforts to turn Medicare into a voucher program that would slash benefits for seniors. Ed [supports the] health care reform that saves Medicare recipients money on prescription drugs by closing the "donut hole," which forced seniors to pay huge out-of-pocket expenses to get the medicines they need. The health care reform law included Ed's Independence at Home program, which improves the care that patients receive and saves money by helping seniors avoid costly hospital visits by keeping them in the comfort of their homes. (Source: Edmarkey.com, <http://ow.ly/x16Q7>)

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.

Brian J. Herr (R):

AARP did extensive research but was unable to find any public statement on this issue by July 11, 2014.

Edward J. Markey (D):

Ed is the Congressional champion for protecting funding for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), which helps low-income households meet their immediate home energy needs. Massachusetts seniors and other vulnerable populations rely on this funding to heat their homes through the winter. Markey won the "Joe Moakley Award for Outstanding Congressional Service in Support of Low Income Home Energy Assistance" Award from the National Energy Assistance Directors' Association. He received the "Extra Mile Award" for his legislative achievements and advocacy for LIHEAP from the National Fuel Funds Network. (Source: Edmarkey.com, <http://ow.ly/xI6Q7>)



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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