



## US Senate, North Carolina

### **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 values. We are non-partisan – 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.

### **HOW TO USE THE AARP VOTERS' GUIDE:**

AARP asked the major candidates in this race for their solutions about issues important to AARP members, Americans age 50-plus, and their families. Each candidate was allowed up to 625 characters to answer the questions. Their responses were not edited nor modified.

AARP has provided a summary of our position for each of the issues in this guide.



[aarp.org/yourvote](https://aarp.org/yourvote)

2014 AARP Voters' Guide | **US Senate, North Carolina**  
**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.

**Kay R. Hagan (D):**

"[Senator Hagan] will never hand Social Security over to Wall Street. In an effort to protect Social Security, Kay has opposed a complicated formula called "Chained CPI" that would amount to cuts in Social Security benefits for North Carolina seniors who rely on them. Our nation faces difficult budget choices, but Kay will never allow our budget to be balanced on the backs of seniors." (Source: Kayhagan.com, <http://ow.ly/wNmbe>)

**Sean N. Haugh (LIB):**

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

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**Social Security**

*How would you protect Social Security for today's seniors and strengthen it for future generations?*

**Thom R. Tillis (R):**

Tillis said the government has to keep its promise to people currently on Social Security and about to get on Social Security, but, like the other candidates, he was unclear about when the cut-off point should be for reductions in Social Security, saying simply, "Let's find a different approach, a sustainable approach." (Source: Davidson News, <http://ow.ly/z1fmX>)

*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.

**Kay R. Hagan (D):**

"[Senator Hagan] will never turn Medicare into a voucher program. Kay has voted to close the Medicare Part D prescription drug "donut hole" that has created a gap in coverage for North Carolina seniors. Kay believes that seniors on a fixed income shouldn't have to choose between filling their prescriptions or buying groceries. Seniors now also have access to preventive care and wellness exams that don't require an additional co-pay, and Kay is advocating for legislation that would help seniors adhere to their medications, which would lower costs and keep seniors healthy."  
(Source: Kayhagan.com, <http://ow.ly/wNmbe>)

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**Medicare**

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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.

**Kay R. Hagan (D):**

"In an effort to make life easier for seniors, Kay supports a bipartisan bill to create a simplified tax filing form that would let seniors who receive pension or VA benefits file their taxes with a form similar to the 1040 EZ. It is these types of commonsense ideas that Kay wants to put to work for North Carolina's seniors." (Source: Kayhagan.com, <http://ow.ly/wNmbe>)

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**Financial Security**

*How would you help Americans save so they can secure their future and live independently as they age?*

**Thom R. Tillis (R):**

As a lifelong businessman, Thom Tillis knows that in order to grow the economy, we must create an environment where businesses can flourish and create jobs.

Government needs to get out of the way, so that entrepreneurs and innovators can thrive. Thom's effort to lead a conservative reform movement to take over the North Carolina legislature helped make our state one of the best places to create new jobs in America.

(Source: Thomtillis.com,  
<http://ow.ly/xjCj5>)

Tired of the campaign clutter? The AARP Voters' Guide will help you find out where the candidates stand on the issues important to you and your family.



For more information, please go to [www.aarp.org/yourvote](http://www.aarp.org/yourvote).

## Voter Information Inside

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