



## **US Senate, Oklahoma**

#### **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.



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

## **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.

#### James M. Inhofe (R):

It is imperative that we secure Social Security for current and future retirees. At the same time, the status quo has put Social Security on an unsustainable path. We must make smart reforms to the program to ensure that the program is secure for retirees both now and in years to come. (Source: Inhofe Senate Site, http://ow.ly/y8eFo)

#### Matthew B. Silverstein (D):

These are sacred promises to our seniors who worked hard their entire lives. Partisan gridlock and career politicians are threatening to jeopardize these programs for our children and grandchildren. Matt's practical approach to investing wisely when we can afford it and cutting wasteful spending and attacking waste, fraud, and abuse is an important first step in keeping these programs solvent. (Source: Silverstein's Campaign Site, http://ow.ly/y8gkr)

### **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.

#### James M. Inhofe (R):

Federally administered programs like Medicare and Medicaid continue to suffer budget shortfalls and gaps in coverage. Cautious comprehensive reform is needed that continues to preserve the solvency of these crucial programs. (Source: Inhofe Senate Site, http://ow.ly/y8fko)

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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.

#### James M. Inhofe (R):

Senator Inhofe knows that the private sector creates jobs – not the government. He is committed to a limited government, and has aggressively fought against out-of-control government spending. With a high unemployment rate, American families and workers have struggled to make ends meet. In the past few years, we have seen a massive increase in the size of government while over-regulation has negatively impacted the economy by threatening private sector job creation. (Source: Inhofe Campaign Site, http://ow.ly/y8fV4)

#### Matthew B. Silverstein (D):

Our corporate taxes are among the highest in the world and that makes our businesses less competitive around the world. However, corporate tax loopholes reduce taxes for the biggest corporations while the entrepreneurs and small businesses that are creating new jobs are saddled with paying close to the full rate. Matt is determined to work towards a tax system that works for small businesses not Wall Street. Matt supports eliminating all special interest corporate tax loopholes and reducing the overall rate to 20 percent or less. (Source: Silverstein's Campaign Site, http://ow.ly/y8gkr)



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**



