



US Senate, South Carolina, Special Election

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

2014 AARP Voters' Guide | **US Senate, South Carolina, Special Election**
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.

Jill B. Bossi (AMP):

The reality is that life expectancy is rising, now projected to be 84. [...] We must begin to raise the age of eligibility for social security payments to a minimum of 65 for early retirement, 70 for typical retirement age and likely 72 or perhaps even 75 for the latest you can begin to receive benefit payments. At the same time we must end the income cap on the Social Security payroll tax so that people continue to pay the tax on all earned income throughout the tax year regardless of how much they make. [...] We also need to apply some type of income means test to eligibility for benefits. (May 31st and June 10th Events)

Joyce Dickerson (D):

Joyce is also an advocate of seniors and veterans, making sure they receive the benefits that they have earned. (Source: Dickerson Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/xTAtJ>)

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Tim E. Scott (R):

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

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.

Jill B. Bossi (AMP):

I believe we can incorporate populations from both Medicaid and Medicare into this system. [...] Medicare and Medicaid work, but are plagued by fraud and abuse and the bureaucracy for these programs causes' medical providers' reasons to not want to be involved. We need to simplify that as well. The insurers have figured that out, and they work with the providers' every day. [...] Let's use their experience and expertise to fix our system for everyone. [...] I believe that by streamlining, simplifying and re-engineering this not only will we provide better care choices to more people, we will do so at a lower cost. (Source: Bossi 4 Senate, <http://ow.ly/zoJj7>)

Joyce Dickerson (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.

Jill B. Bossi (AMP):

[...] I believe one of the best things that could be done to incentivize Americans to save is to encourage all employers in the U.S. to create 401K type plans for their employees and then auto-enroll all employees into those plans upon employment at the plan minimum. [...] This can begin with that 16 year olds' very first job. I would also encourage employers to some type of minimal matching of their 401K matching program to incent employees to save. This may mean adjusting the plans to make portability, roll over and hardship withdrawal easier and more convenient for people [...]. (April 4th, May 2nd and May 31st Events)

Joyce Dickerson (D):

Joyce will fight for America's declining middle class. She is dedicated to helping secure the jobs of the everyday citizen, paving a way to a more positive financial outlook. (Source: Dickerson Campaign Website, <http://ow.ly/xTAtj>)

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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.



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