



US Senate, Virginia

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, Virginia**
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.

Edward W. Gillespie (R):

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

Robert C. Sarvis (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?

Mark R. Warner (D):

Sen. Warner believes Medicare and Social Security are among the most effective government programs ever created. He recognizes that we must follow through with our promises to our seniors, and work together to strengthen these programs for today's seniors and reform them so they will still exist for the next generation. (Source: Warner Campaign Site <http://ow.ly/xZakP>)

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.

Edward W. Gillespie (R):

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Robert C. Sarvis (LIB):

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Medicare

How would you put Medicare on stronger financial ground and protect today's seniors and future retirees from rising health costs?

Mark R. Warner (D):

With passage of the 2010 Affordable Care Act supported by Sen. Warner, Medicare beneficiaries in Virginia who hit the Part D prescription drug “donut hole” have saved more than \$197 million on Medicare-approved prescription drugs. This has helped ensure that seniors on a fixed income no longer had to choose between buying groceries or purchasing their prescriptions. Mark co-founded the Virginia Health Care Foundation, which continues to support a million medically unserved and underserved Virginians through grants to community health centers and access to low-cost prescription drugs. (Source: Warner Campaign Site <http://ow.ly/xZakP>)

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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.

Edward W. Gillespie (R):

Conservative, pro-growth policies promoting lower taxes, less government spending, and ending excessive regulation create jobs, raise take-home pay, and reduce health care and energy costs by unleashing private investment and allowing working Americans rather than political appointees in Washington to make decisions about the best way to allocate their resources... If elected I will promote a pro-growth economic agenda to create good-paying jobs for families, foster upward mobility, help those currently employed to keep more of what they earn, and enable people to lift themselves out of poverty. (Source: Gillespie Campaign Site <http://ow.ly/xZe2o>)

Robert C. Sarvis (LIB):

How will you help expand access to home and community based services (HCBS) in your state? [...] Preference for cash subsidies, which empower patients to choose the best care options for their individual needs, and which foster a competitive market in which more providers offer home- and community-based services at a reasonable price. Investigation and prosecution of fraudulent schemes that channel patients, especially children, disabled, and mental-health patients, into expensive facilities away from home/community to reap federal dollars at taxpayer expense. (Source: AARP 2013 Virginia Governor Voter Guide)

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Financial Security

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

Mark R. Warner (D):

In the Senate, Mark has drawn upon his experience in business to craft policies that invest in U.S. manufacturing and strengthen our infrastructure, and which promote the growth of small businesses and start-up companies to drive job growth and a stronger economy. Mark also co-founded the Virginia Health Care Foundation, which continues to support a million medically unserved and underserved Virginians through grants to community health centers and access to low-cost prescription drugs. Mark launched the SeniorNavigator.com website to better link seniors, their families and other caregivers with local community resources. (Source: Warner Campaign Site <http://ow.ly/xZakP>)

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.

Voter Information Inside

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