US House California District 15

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.

Hugh Bussell (R):
AARP did extensive research but was unable to find any public statement on this issue by July 11, 2014.

Eric M. Swalwell (Dem):
Social Security is one of our most successful government programs, lifting seniors out of poverty and offering most seniors the only means of retirement income. To ensure the long-term viability of the program, I support lifting the cap on wages above $110,000 and also support raising the retirement age gradually and tying it to life expectancy rates. (Source: On the Issues, http://ow.ly/y5TwQ)

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.

Hugh Bussell (R):
AARP did extensive research but was unable to find any public statement on this issue by July 11, 2014.

Eric M. Swalwell (Dem):
I am opposed to any plan that dismantles Medicare and the guarantee of health insurance for our seniors...To ensure the long-term viability of Medicare, we must do more to better deliver health care, especially preventative care, and hold down the rising cost of providing medical care...it is important that we fight Medicare fraud to realize savings. Also, we must have a Sustainable Growth Rate, that sets what a physician is paid for services, that is fair but controlled for physicians. Finally, I support means testing so that wealthier Americans, who can afford to do so, pay their fair share for care. (Source: Vote-CA, http://ow.ly/y5TRq)
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.

Hugh Bussell (R):
On tax reform, Bussell said that the tax code “is incredibly complex.” It should be simplified, “the way it was in the 1980s.” He supports tax deductions for charitable donations and the home mortgage interest deduction, so he would not pull those out. (Source: Independent News, http://ow.ly/xNCae)

Eric M. Swalwell (Dem):
I support a tax code that rewards U.S. manufacturers that build new plants, modernize existing plants, retrain workers, and keep jobs in America. This includes tax credits to cover moving expenses for companies that close production overseas and return jobs to the U.S. Companies that move operations out of the country should be punished in the form of higher taxes. And, we must do more to enforce free trade rules against countries that violate or manipulate the rules to gain an unfair advantage over American products or workers, including currency manipulation and the theft of technology and intellectual property. (Source: Smart Voter, http://ow.ly/y5U3z)
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.