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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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.

Karen Bass (Dem):
Social Security is one of the most effective programs in our country’s history. It serves as a foundation for retirement security that keeps our seniors from living in poverty. Millions of Americans depend on Social Security benefits and the program must be protected and strengthened to ensure its continuation for future generations. Democrats will never allow for Social Security to be privatized, under no circumstances. (Source: About, http://ow.ly/y5YGU)

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

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.

Karen Bass (Dem):
Reforms to Medicare that break a pledge we have made to our seniors is wrong and will not stand. (Source: Karen Bass Website, http://ow.ly/y5YOL)

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

Karen Bass (Dem):
As the economy continues to grow, I will fight for our overburdened middle-class and for the small business owners of America. Small businesses are the backbone of the American economy, and I will fight to give tax credits to small businesses to hire new employees, restore the flow of credit to small businesses so they can grow and create jobs, and extend the research and development tax credit that encourages innovation and job creation. (Source: Karen Bass Website, http://ow.ly/c3LzL)

R. Adam King (Rep):
One of the biggest problems our country faces is over government regulations on business. I understand the need for environmental regulations and health regulations on specific products, but our government sees it fit to dictate how business should be transacted on every level, big or small. This regulation muffles innovation and stagnates our economy. Government overregulation is crippling our economy and making it more difficult for the basic taxpayer to earn a living. (Source: King Campaign Site, http://ow.ly/yC6WS)
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.