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
2014 AARP Voters’ Guide | US House Colorado District 3

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.

Abel J. Tapia (Dem):
Once elected, he will work diligently on major issues impacting the district, including job creation, Social Security, immigration reform, health care benefits, and support for small business. (Source: Tapia Campaign Site, http://ow.ly/ydOGo)

Scott R. Tipton (Rep):
I am firmly opposed to privatizing Social Security. If we are to continue to provide future generations with the promise of Social Security, we must engage in a bipartisan debate about genuine reform...Before ensuring solvency for younger Americans, our first priority must be to protect those current beneficiaries and those who have planned their retirements around Social Security benefits. The road to reform does not include cutting benefits. I will continue to fight to preserve benefits for those currently in the system. (Source: Scott Tipton Campaign Website, http://ow.ly/c2qzZ)

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.

Abel J. Tapia (Dem):
AARP did extensive research but was unable to find any public statement on this issue by July 11, 2014.

Scott R. Tipton (Rep):
Our plan makes responsible budget reforms and begins to pay back the national debt; it ensures that critical programs like Medicare will be available for future generations, and does not change Medicare benefits in any way for current seniors (65 and older) or those 10 years from retirement (55 and older)...I’m committed to keeping the promise to seniors and fighting to protect their access to quality health care, and it’s my hope that the President and the Senate will work with us in the House to pass real solutions to the challenges facing our country[...]. (Source: Rep. Tipton Congressional Website, http://ow.ly/c2qzZ)
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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.

Abel J. Tapia (Dem):
Once elected, he will work diligently on major issues impacting the district, including job creation, Social Security, immigration reform, health care benefits, and support for small business. (Source: Tapia Campaign Site http://ow.ly/ydOGo)

Scott R. Tipton (Rep):
My top priority is getting people back to work across the country. During this time of economic uncertainty, it’s time that we take a hard look at our budget priorities and rein in the government overreach that is impeding private-sector job creation. By cutting out-of-control federal spending and reforming job-killing regulations, we can get government out of the way of the private sector and give businesses room to create jobs and drive an economic recovery. I will continue to support measures that address our nation’s fiscal challenges. (Source: Rep. Tipton Congressional Website, http://ow.ly/c2qRu)
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.