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.

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

Domenic M. Recchia Jr. (Dem):
"I will be a powerful advocate for the middle class, job growth, education, Social Security, and Medicare,” he said. (Source: Brooklyn Eagle, http://ow.ly/yRBhc)

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.

Michael G. Grimm (Rep):
Staten Island and Brooklyn seniors have paid into Medicare [...] their entire careers and I am committed to preserving those benefits. Unfortunately, if we continue to do nothing, these essential programs will go bankrupt. [...] I believe we must act now to preserve these programs for current beneficiaries, those near retirement, and future generations. I support a plan that empowers our nation’s 50 million seniors to make decisions on what type of care is best for them - all while keeping Medicare solvent past 2026 and without changing Medicare for any person 55 or older. (Source: Grimm House Website, http://ow.ly/xYOB9)

Domenic M. Recchia Jr. (Dem):
"I will be a powerful advocate for the middle class, job growth, education, Social Security, and Medicare,” he said. (Source: Brooklyn Eagle, http://ow.ly/yRBhc)
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.

Michael G. Grimm (Rep):
[...] Our businesses are hit even harder from outrageous tolls and local regulations that have made permit requirements, inspections and fines spiral so far out of control that it’s impossible for our businesses to survive. Taxing and over-regulating our local businesses is not an impetus for job creation, and I remain committed to doing all I can to reduce this burden on a federal level. Millions of Americans are still out of work, and I believe we must do better to get our economy on track. [...] I have continuously voted for pro-jobs bills that cut red tape and create an environment for job and businesses growth. (Source: Michael Grimm for Congress, http://ow.ly/c2JKU)

Domenic M. Recchia Jr. (Dem):
"Recchia outlined his vision to secure Staten Island more funding for projects and improvements that will translate into jobs, and help Hurricane Sandy victims." He outlined his accomplishments in 12 years on the City Council, citing the re-zoning of Coney Island that brought in millions of dollars, businesses and jobs, working with New Yorkers and passing four budgets on time that saved firehouses, schools and did not raise taxes. (Source: Silive, http://ow.ly/yRCZr)
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.

Voter Information Inside