US House New York District 21

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.

**Elise M. Stefanik (Rep):**
In an interview with the Times on Thursday, Ms. Stefanik did say that she would like to modernize the Social Security program and reform Medicare. She did not suggest that either program be ended, however. (Source: Watertown Daily Times, http://ow.ly/yRTRz)

**Aaron G. Woolf (Dem):**
Social Security and Medicare are part of a sacred trust between citizens and their government. Working men and women paid into the system all their lives, and so they deserve to know the program will be there for them in full when they retire. It’s as simple as this: No cuts to Medicare, no cuts to Social Security. Congress can get its fiscal house in order without balancing the budget on the backs of retirees. (Source: Woolf Campaign Website, http://ow.ly/yRlg3)

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.

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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.

Elise M. Stefanik (Rep):
Elise understands the hard work, long days and determination it takes for Main Street small businesses to be successful in Upstate New York. She also understands how often times regulations and mandates from the federal government only stifle economic growth and job creation. (Source: Elise for Congress, http://ow.ly/yRTwg)

Aaron G. Woolf (Dem):
...Too many New York counties are still saddled with high unemployment. Aaron’s top priority as Congressman will be to support opportunities for job growth across the district. Aaron will take on unnecessary and overly burdensome regulations affecting local businesses while looking for ways to help connect those businesses with opportunities inside the federal government. He’ll also look for ways to create a better environment for local businesses and create a level playing field with competitors. (Source: Woolf for Congress, http://ow.ly/yRT2j)
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