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.

Jonathan Barfield Jr. (Dem):
I am a staunch supporter of Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid. I pledge to protect Social Security for seniors and future generations, and I am committed to seeking ways to improve these programs to insure their long term viability. (Source: Barfield for Congress, http://ow.ly/xp6fl)

David C. Rouzer (Rep):
“I’ll protect my grandmother’s Social Security and Medicare and yours too” (Source: Rouzer TV Ad, http://ow.ly/xp9VS)

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.

Jonathan Barfield Jr. (Dem):
I am a staunch supporter of Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid. ... I believe in common sense reforms to Medicare and Medicaid that increase the efficiency and quality of medical care, and will be an advocate for rooting out the policies and practices that have resulted in systemic waste. (Source: Barfield for Congress, http://ow.ly/xp6fl)

David C. Rouzer (Rep):
Increased health care costs not only hurt working families, but it is putting a major pinch on all taxpayers in the form of the increasing cost of Medicare and Medicaid. ... We must enact free market reforms to our health care system in order to increase competition among health insurance companies, attract more of the very best and brightest to the health care profession, and increase transparency if we expect to reduce the cost of health care. ... These two entitlement programs have systematic problems that must be addressed through reform as well. Otherwise, the cost of these two government-run programs will be unsustainable... (Source: Davidrouzer.com, http://ow.ly/xp7VI)
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.

Jonathan Barfield Jr. (Dem):
When we invest public funds to build highways and port facilities that bring companies and jobs that is an incentive. When government invests in high-performing schools, safe streets and modern recreational amenities- and jobs, businesses and talented people arrive as a result, and we’ve utilized incentives. Nobody disputes that. But in today’s highly competitive world, incentives must also take the form of direct risk sharing between companies and communities. I will continue to support the use of performance-based financial incentives in order for our district to enjoy the benefits of high-quality job creation. (Source: Barfield for Congress, http://ow.ly/xp7th)

David C. Rouzer (Rep):
We must: 1. Reform our federal tax code so that it is fair to everyone and reduce taxes across the board. 2. Cut spending and reform our government to operate on less – just like every business and family has been forced to do. 3. Bring common sense back to our federal regulatory structure so that small businesses and entrepreneurs can get their products and services to the marketplace and effectively compete in the global economy. 4. Repeal Obamacare and replace it with market-driven solutions to encourage competition and increase transparency and thereby reduce costs and enable more to be able to afford health insurance (Source: Davidrouzer.com, http://ow.ly/xpbas)
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.