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.

Carson D. Adcock (Rep):
The bigger issues we will face will be in protecting Medicare and Social Security for our seniors. The health care bill cut $529 billion out of an already underfunded Medicare system. Social Security is running in the red, and seniors didn’t receive a cost of living increase for the second straight year. Our current leaders think these systems are fine. I think we need to put measures in place to put those programs on sound fiscal ground and make sure they will be there for those who are counting on them. (Source: Montgomery Media, http://ow.ly/xzQ5F)

Brendan F. Boyle (Dem):
I would also take steps to make sure that the Social Security Trust Fund is repaid in full for the funds it has loaned during decades of surpluses. One of the greatest strengths of Social Security is that it is financed by a dedicated revenue stream and is self-funding. Social Security has not contributed to this nation’s deficit and we can’t look to the program to solve our budget crisis. (Source: Voteboyle.com, http://ow.ly/xzNnu)

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.

Carson D. Adcock (Rep):
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Brendan F. Boyle (Dem):
I believe Medicare should be allowed to negotiate for cheaper drug prices. [...] It is illogical that a consumer can buy medicines over the counter more cheaply than Medicare, despite its bulk purchasing power. We also need to end the practice of pay-for-delay, which will save taxpayers billions of dollars by prohibiting drug companies from paying competitors from bringing generic pharmaceuticals to market. We also must continue to improve the Medicare system by eliminating waste and fraud while bolstering its value and efficiency. (Source: Voteboyle.com, http://ow.ly/xzNnu)
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.

Carson D. Adcock (Rep):
Wasteful spending and regulation are weighing on the economy and preventing small businesses from expanding and creating new jobs. Small businesses create over half of the new jobs in this country each year. I believe that those businesses and the entrepreneurs and workers that run them are the key to getting us out of the economic slump we’re in. (Source: Adcockforcongress.com, http://ow.ly/xzQFs)

Brendan F. Boyle (Dem):
I have always fought for workers. I am proud that over 95% of labor organizations have endorsed my congressional campaign because of my record fighting for working families. We need people in Congress who will stand up for workers. While there is no quick fix to fully restore our economy, we must work together to build an economy that works for the middle class, providing opportunities for the custodian and crossing guard who want their children to make it to college and for the small business owner with a dream and the drive to work hard and succeed. (Source: Voteboyle.com, http://ow.ly/xzOX5)
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