US House Pennsylvania District 5

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.

**Kerith S. Taylor (Dem):**
In Congress, Strano Taylor will proudly work to rebuild America’s middle class by fighting for an increased minimum wage, reinvestment in public education and job training programs, making early childhood education a priority, working to protect and preserve Social Security and Veterans benefits, Medicare and Medicaid, and equal pay for equal work. (Source: KST for Congress, http://ow.ly/ydHvg)

**Glenn W. Thompson Jr. (Rep):**
Thompson also said he aims to be fiscally responsible, working with both parties to balance the budget and work ahead of time on Medicare and Social Security. "Medicare is good until about 2021 and Social Security is good until about 2035. It’s not that far away,” Thompson said. ‘We need to take care to fix and save thos. (Source: Centre Daily Times, http://ow.ly/ydH4G)

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.

**Kerith S. Taylor (Dem):**
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**Glenn W. Thompson Jr. (Rep):**
“The thing that would hurt Medicare the most is to do nothing, and to further kick the can down the road. [...]If we don’t reform (Medicare), don’t save Medicare, it goes bankrupt. [...]We have, and I am very pleased with the plan that we have put forward, it has to do with premium supports, our plan would direct Medicare to go out and bid out for many different vendors, healthcare plans that seniors could then shop through. Medicare sets the standards, these companies that would put these products forward. [...]It’s what we do under Medicare Part D today. (Source: House Floor Speech, 6:50-7:15; http://ow.ly/cixPU)
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.

Kerith S. Taylor (Dem):
It’s time to get people back to work. Everyday men and women work hard to make ends meet, but still struggle to put food on the table. For too long, moneyed interests have dominated the Congressional agenda, causing millions of dollars of waste, crippling economic growth, and missing valuable opportunities. Government must once again be a conduit for stable job growth – it must work to boost the pocketbooks of the people. To do so, we must get everyone back to work and focus on building productive collaboration on the local, regional, state, and national levels… (Source: Taylor Campaign Website, http://ow.ly/xxjis)

Glenn W. Thompson Jr. (Rep):
America’s federal budget deficits have reached historic levels, federal spending is at its highest mark since 1945, and today our national debt is now larger than our entire economy. Without spending discipline and comprehensive budget and tax reforms, raising taxes as some propose will not solve our nation’s debt crisis and will seriously harm small businesses,” Thompson said. "And simply put, throwing more money at our economic problems has gone on for too long in Washington." (Source: Ridgeway Record, http://ow.ly/xxgF9)
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.