US House Pennsylvania District 8

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.

Mike G. Fitzpatrick (Rep):
With your vote, he will continue to put Americans back in charge of our economy and protect critical programs like Social Security and Medicare. (Source: Fitzpatrickforcongress.com, http://ow.ly/xxwP3)

Kevin R. Strouse (D):
We cannot balance the budget on the backs of seniors. Seniors have paid into Medicare and Social Security every paycheck. They’ve earned it, and I will ensure these programs stay solvent. (Source: Kevinstrouse.com, http://ow.ly/xxCYp)

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.

Mike G. Fitzpatrick (Rep):
Medicare Advantage plans are health plans offered by private companies that contract with Medicare to provide participants with Part A and Part B benefits. Nationwide, there are over 15 million seniors enrolled in the program. “These policies offer accessible healthcare while saving beneficiaries out-of-pocket expenses. By focusing on prevention and disease management, Medicare Advantage plans contain costs and helps keep seniors out of expensive facilities,” Fitzpatrick added. “I remain a proponent of Medicare Advantage and will work to strengthen the program at a level that meets the expectations of all seniors.” (Source: Fitzpatrick.house.gov, http://ow.ly/xxxXg)

Kevin R. Strouse (D):
We cannot balance the budget on the backs of seniors. Seniors have paid into Medicare and Social Security every paycheck. They’ve earned it, and I will ensure these programs stay solvent. I also support strengthening Medicare by developing digital health records and processing to eliminate duplication, misinformation, and billions wasted on bureaucratic red tape, and allowing Medicare to negotiate for prescription drugs. I support efforts that encourage Medicare payments for outcomes rather than merely paying per service. (Source: Kevinstrouse.com, http://ow.ly/xxCYp)
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.

Mike G. Fitzpatrick (Rep):
Our country is facing one of the greatest economic challenges of a generation. The way back to prosperity lies in the private sector and with America’s greatest asset: the American worker. American workers can compete with any in the world as long as they are competing on a level playing field. The government does not create jobs, it creates an environment for small businesses and private industry to invest and grow. By keeping taxes low and government interference at a minimum our economy will recover and Americans will get back to work. (Source: Fitzpatrick.house.gov, http://ow.ly/xxYRm)

Kevin R. Strouse (D):
I believe the best way to create new jobs is by growing our economy, getting deficit spending under control, and providing tax incentives to encourage small business growth. Small businesses help drive job creation, and we must create a climate that makes it easier for entrepreneurs to start and grow new companies. That means ensuring access to capital, reducing unnecessary red-tape, and easing the tax burden on small businesses. (Source: Kevinstrouse.com, http://ow.ly/xxCYP)
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.