US House Rhode Island District 1

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.

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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.

David N. Cicilline (Dem):
David is committed to protecting Social Security, and has cosponsored legislation that would help strengthen the Social Security Trust Fund while also improving the Cost of Living Adjustment formula to better reflect price changes in the goods and services regularly purchased by seniors. David also opposes the raising of the Social Security eligibility age or any effort to privatize the system. Lastly, he has led the fight in Congress against “Chained CPI,” which would reduce cost-of-living adjustments for Rhode Island’s seniors over time. (Source: Cicilline.com, http://ow.ly/xG0fc)

Cormick Lynch (Rep):
Our seniors have paid into Social Security and Medicare and the federal government has an obligation to honor its promises. Therefore, no significant changes should be made to the system for the baby boomer generation. Cormick is particularly alarmed with Obamacare’s $700 billion cut to Medicare. However, given the increase in life expectancy and budgetary strain the system causes, Cormick believes that changes should be made for future generations. (Source: Lynch Campaign Site http://goo.gl/81zVUH)

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.

David N. Cicilline (Dem):
David strongly believes that after a lifetime of hard work, seniors have earned the right to live with dignity and respect. Our government must honor the promises it makes, and David is fighting in Congress to protect Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security. [...] David is a co-sponsor of the Medicare Prescription Drug Price Negotiation Act, legislation that would authorize the negotiation of discounted prescription drug prices for Medicare. This legislation is estimated to save taxpayers billions of dollars while also lowering the cost of prescription drugs discounted for seniors. (Source: Cicilline.com, http://ow.ly/xG0fc)

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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.

David N. Cicilline (Dem):
Seniors have earned the right to enjoy their retirement years with dignity, financial security and quality affordable health care. It is critically important to David that we provide our nation’s seniors with access to quality health care, affordable prescription drugs, a secure retirement, safe housing, and transportation services. David strongly believes that after a lifetime of hard work, seniors have earned the right to live with dignity and respect. Our government must honor the promises it makes, and David is fighting in Congress to protect Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security. (Source: Cicilline.com, http://ow.ly/xG0fc)

Cormick Lynch (Rep):
Cormick’s primary objective will be to restore the American economy to full strength. With the highest unemployment rate in the country, economic malaise impacts Rhode Island perhaps harder than any other state. Any proposal to reignite dynamic economic growth will rest upon lowering taxes and costs of doing business both in Rhode Island and the country as a whole. (Source: Cormick for Congress, http://ow.ly/z05Tr)
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.