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.

**Rob W. Bishop (Rep):**
The federal government must keep its contract with America’s seniors. Preserving social security benefits for those who have paid and are paying into the system must be a priority. Congress should pass measures that make the social security program more fiscally sound, without raising the retirement age, cutting benefits, or increasing taxes. (Source: Bishop’s Congressional Site http://ow.ly/y6sJ7)

**Donna M. McAleer (Dem):**
Many in Congress want to keep tax breaks for the wealthy and other “entitlements” and instead cut costs by sacrificing Medicare and Social Security in order to get our budget under control. [...] As a representative, I will never vote to take away benefits from current retirees and near retirees who have paid into the Social Security system to whom this benefit was promised. I will work across the aisle to stabilize Social Security’s financial situation through a mixture of revenue and reforms to the system that would affect young workers and those entering the system. (Source: 2012 Campaign Mailers)

**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.

**Rob W. Bishop (Rep):**
The federal government must keep its contract with America’s seniors. The discussion of Medicare, Social Security, and Medicaid is not about entitlement programs— it is about you, and me, our children, and every American. Preserving benefits for those who have paid and are paying into the system is a priority, and Congress has a responsibility to ensure that these services are sustainable for the future. (Source: Bishop’s Congressional Site http://ow.ly/y6tnu)

**Donna M. McAleer (Dem):**
Thousands of Utah seniors rely on this federal health insurance program. We need leaders in Congress who are willing to work together to develop ways to increase Medicare’s efficiencies while looking at options to reduce it long term costs and removing perverse incentives in the program that threaten its long term sustainability. [...] We need to make it easier for Medicare to negotiate with drug companies to get the best prescription drug prices. This saves seniors money and puts Medicare on much sounder financial ground. (Source: 2012 Campaign Mailers)
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.

Rob W. Bishop (Rep):

I firmly believe that the best way to stimulate our economy and create jobs is to let hard-working Americans keep more of their money - after all, the money belongs to them, not to Washington. And the more we can reduce the tax and regulatory burden on small businesses, the more time and effort they can put into creating and providing quality jobs and economic growth that benefit all of us. (Source: Bishop’s Congressional Site http://ow.ly/y6sSb)

Donna M. McAleer (Dem):

We need to focus on financial literacy and education for students starting in middle school so they understanding the importance of budgeting, saving and investing at an early age. (Source: 2012 Campaign Mailers)
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.