US Senate, Delaware

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.

Christopher A. Coons (D):
[...]
The solution to social security needs to be part of a broader solution that is reached in a bipartisan thoughtful way over a number of years. I would not vote to raise the retirement age for social security. In the long term we are going to need to get more people paying in we are going to need a more robust and reliable provision for Social security as the number of private sector pensions decreases and as the amount folks are able to save for retirement in private means decreases. [...] I am committed to preserving Social Security [...](Source: Wall Street Journal Debate, http://ow.ly/xHORH)

Kevin L. Wade (R):
AARP did extensive research but was unable to find any public statement on this issue by July 11, 2014.

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.

Christopher A. Coons (D):
I share your concern that we reject proposals that would turn Medicare or Medicaid into a block grant program or voucher program and shift the significant cost of providing high quality health care to our seniors onto states or onto those seniors themselves. Healthcare is one of the biggest costs facing the federal government going forward. There are a number of things that we can and should do to trim the growth in costs without reducing the quality or access of healthcare in this country. (Source: Coons Official Youtube Channel, http://ow.ly/xHSNt)

Kevin L. Wade (R):
AARP did extensive research but was unable to find any public statement on this issue by July 11, 2014.
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.

Christopher A. Coons (D):
It is important to recognize the growing role that older workers will play in Delaware’s economy and in the labor force across the country. Coons intends to cosponsor the Protecting Older Workers Against Discrimination Act. [...] This critical piece of legislation is essential to ensuring that older workers have the same rights as other Americans under the law and to creating an equal playing field in the workplace for older Americans. Coons is also a proud cosponsor of the Older Americans Act Amendments of 2013 [...] which provides federal funding to support a wide range of social services and programs for older persons. (Source: Coons.Senate.gov, http://ow.ly/xHVUw)

Kevin L. Wade (R):
AARP did extensive research but was unable to find any public statement on this issue by July 11, 2014.
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