US Senate, Texas

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.

David M. Alameel (D):
“Social Security and Medicare are promises to the seniors who worked hard, paid into the system all their lives and made our country what it is today. In the Senate, David Alameel will always honor that promise because he understands that our seniors have earned a dignified retirement. He vows to NEVER cut Social Security and Medicare and will fight any attempt... ...to turn these programs over to Wall Street and privatize them.” (Source: http://alameelforsenate.com, http://ow.ly/wO2FW)

John Cornyn III (R):
“The worst-kept secret in Washington is that programs many Texans and Americans depend on–Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid–are going broke... ...Senator Cornyn supports and has voted for a responsible plan to preserve and protect these programs for Texas’ seniors and poor, ensuring they’re there for future generations. The biggest driver of our unsustainable national debt is entitlement spending. Until these programs are responsibly reformed, they will remain in jeopardy for generations of Texans to come.” (Source: http://www.johncornyn.com, http://ow.ly/wNZho)

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 M. Alameel (D):
“Social Security and Medicare are promises to the seniors who worked hard, paid into the system all their lives and made our country what it is today. In the Senate, David Alameel will always honor that promise because he understands that our seniors have earned a dignified retirement. He vows to NEVER cut Social Security and Medicare and will fight any attempt... ...to turn these programs over to Wall Street and privatize them.” (Source: http://alameelforsenate.com, http://ow.ly/wO2FW)

John Cornyn III (R):
“...Private plans should be able to compete against traditional Medicare. Private plans have already been very successful in the Part D prescription drug program... Reforms could be made to Parts A and B of Medicare... ...that would provide beneficiaries with greater plan choice. Under premium support... ...if an individual selected a cheaper plan, he would retain the savings. Beneficiaries interested in selecting a more expensive plan could elect to do so and pay the difference. Reforms could also include an increase in the Medicare eligibility age, changes to the rules for supplemental insurance coverage, and means testing for premiums and cost-sharing.” (Source: http://www.cornyn.senate.gov, http://ow.ly/wNZd9)
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 M. Alameel (D):
As Senator, David Alameel will advocate for; Creating good paying jobs in Texas that can’t be shipped overseas... Ending tax breaks for corporations that ship American jobs to places like China and India... Raising the minimum wage so families can work with dignity, put food on the table and keep a roof over their heads... Extending unemployment insurance benefits to the long-term unemployed... Ensuring tough enforcement of equal pay laws which helps all of our families. (Source: Alameel Campaign Site http://goo.gl/ALnYG0)

John Cornyn III (R):
Senator Cornyn and Senate Republicans have introduced a jobs plan to jumpstart the American economy. Starting with commonsense policies to live within our means, Senator Cornyn’s plan calls for reforming our convoluted tax code, easing Washington regulations on Texas businesses, and tapping into the abundant energy resources we have here at home. There’s a reason why folks from all over the country are moving to Texas: low taxes, sensible regulations, and fiscal restraint have made our state a job-creating powerhouse, and Senator Cornyn will keep pushing for Washington to be more like Texas. (Source: http://www.johncornyn.com, http://ow.ly/wO1Gb)
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