



Maine House District 02 Congressional District 2

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 values. We are non-partisan – 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.

HOW TO USE THE AARP VOTERS' GUIDE:

AARP produced this guide to help you find out what candidates are saying about important issues, including: Social Security, Medicare, and Financial Security. All candidate statements contained in this guide were taken from publicly available sources, such as media websites. We've included links to the websites and encourage you to go there to read more about their positions.

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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 protect benefits for people who count on them most, including surviving spouses and families, low-wage workers, and individuals who become disabled and can no longer 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.

Michael H. Michaud (Dem):

"Thousands of Mainers depend on Social Security and Medicare, and Mike believes that we must do everything we can to protect these programs and the important benefits that our seniors enjoy. He continues to oppose efforts to privatize Social Security and turn Medicare into a voucher program. He has made issues important to Maine seniors a top priority, including protecting Medicare and Social Security, making prescription drugs more affordable, and promoting consumer protections." (Source: Congressman Michaud Website; <http://ow.ly/cx6QM>)

Kevin L. Raye (Rep):

Politicians need to stop using Social Security and Medicare as partisan weapons to seek political advantage. Doing so has allowed the crisis facing these two vital programs to worsen over time. In order to ensure that Social Security and Medicare are in place to protect future generations of Americans, Congress should consider raising the eligibility age for younger workers and those who follow, which would help address the issue of increased life expectancy, one of the primary drivers of the projected Social Security shortfall just over 20 years from now. (Source: Bangor Daily News; <http://ow.ly/cx6UB>)

Medicare

How would you put Medicare on stronger financial ground and protect today's seniors and future retirees from the burden of 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.

Michael H. Michaud (Dem):

There is no question that we must rein in our debt, but we must do so in a balanced way that doesn't threaten our economic recovery or place overwhelming burdens on our most vulnerable citizens. This budget bill...turns Medicare into a voucher program, leaving seniors to fend for themselves in the health insurance market. In fact, the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office estimates that the budget plan would double or even triple seniors' Medicare costs. It will also severely undermine Medicaid, which is a major way seniors are able to receive long-term care. (Source: Congressman Michaud Website; <http://ow.ly/cx6QM>)

Kevin L. Raye (Rep):

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Financial Security

How would you help Americans build a financial nest egg for their retirement?

AARP's Position:

- There should be more opportunities and incentives for all Americans to save for their retirement and financial security.
- Freedom from age discrimination is a fundamental right, and all Americans should be able to keep working and contributing to society regardless of age.
- Promoting affordable home ownership and safeguarding home equity are important to maintain and improve the independence and quality of life of Americans age 50-plus.

Michael H. Michaud (Dem):

During Mike's twenty-two years in the Maine Legislature, he worked with his colleagues on a bipartisan basis to write balanced budgets. In Congress, he is member of the Blue Dog Coalition, which is comprised of fiscally conservative members of Congress who advocate for balancing the budget. American families and small businesses balance their budgets and Mike feels strongly that the federal government needs to do the same, believing that deficit reduction must be a top priority for the Congress and for the Administration. (Source: Congressman Michaud Website; <http://ow.ly/cx6Tu>)

Kevin L. Raye (Rep):

Balancing the budget and reducing the deficit will require long-term fiscal discipline to reverse the irresponsible growth of government spending in recent years. Important steps include repealing Obamacare, which is projected to cost \$1.76 trillion over 10 years, passing a Balanced Budget Amendment to force Congress to adopt realistic spending priorities like we have done in Augusta, capping discretionary spending, and encouraging job growth through regulatory and tax reform in order to bolster revenues. (Source: Bangor Daily News; <http://ow.ly/cx6UB>)

Tired of the campaign clutter? The AARP Voters' Guide will help you find out where the candidates stand on the issues important to you and your family.



For more information, please go to earnedasay.org.

Voter Information Inside