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Where do Pennsylvania's U.S. Senate candidates stand on Medicare and Social Security?



SENATOR BOB CASEY:

Committed to strengthening Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid

- ✓ Introduced the Boosting Benefits and COLAs for Seniors Act, which will ensure Social Security keeps pace with rising food, housing, and healthcare costs
- ✓ Fought to protect American jobs and secure over \$34 billion to help keep union pensions strong and stable so that hardworking Americans can retire with the dignity they deserve
- ✓ Voted to protect the pensions of union workers, stopping a massive 45% cut—ensuring folks who've worked hard their whole lives get the retirement security they earned

Sources: City & State Pennsylvania, 6/24/2024; Pennsylvania Capital-Star, 6/21/2024; Franklin County Free Press, 6/22/2024

National Social Security Advocacy Group Endorses Senator Bob Casey for Re-Election

NCPSSM, 4/12/2024



DAVE McCORMICK:

Prioritizing the wealthy over the needs of working families

- ✗ Wants to cut Social Security benefits, calling the program "unsustainable," and has repeatedly said that Social Security and Medicare are on the chopping block if he's elected
- ✗ His plan to privatize Social Security would have given billions of dollars to big banks and investment firms, leaving everyday Americans to foot the bill—we can't afford to let Wall Street gamble with our retirement
- ✗ Supports the 2017 tax plan that hiked taxes on middle-class families in Pennsylvania, while giving huge tax breaks to big corporations

Sources: PoliticsPA, 3/21/2023; Heartland Signal, 5/12/2022; ThinkProgress, 4/12/2019; *The Pennsylvania Independent*, 2/5/2024

David McCormick advocated privatizing Social Security, Medicare

Heartland Signal, 5/12/2022

SEPTEMBER 2024

IN UNION SPECIAL REPORT:

WHAT'S AT STAKE FOR SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE



WHY THESE ISSUES MATTER FOR PENNSYLVANIA

Social Security and Medicare are key issues for Pennsylvanians. In Pennsylvania, Social Security supports around 329,000 residents, offering them financial security in retirement. Additionally, Medicare covers over 2.8 million Pennsylvania residents, providing 22% of the state's population with essential healthcare. With Pennsylvania having the fifth-highest percentage of residents over 65, protecting and strengthening these programs is crucial to maintaining the health and financial security of millions of Pennsylvanians.

Sources: Social Security Administration, December 2022; HealthInsurance.org, accessed 8/30/2024

Seniors in Pennsylvania are concerned about Social Security following Trump's comments

The former President made reference to 'cutting' the program

Pennsylvania Capital-Star, 3/17/2024

Trump's Views On Social Security And Medicare—And Why Experts Say Funds Could Run Out Quicker If He's Elected

Forbes, 8/16/2024

"I honestly do not believe I would be alive today if I didn't have the supports of Medicare and Social Security. It's important, I think, for everyone to understand how necessary this is. It's not what Mr. Trump has referred to as a Ponzi scheme."

—Pat Schogel, retired PA social worker

Source: WHYY, 3/13/2024

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KAMALA HARRIS AND TIM WALZ WILL PROTECT AND STRENGTHEN SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE



“For 89 years, Social Security has made the difference between poverty or peace of mind for millions of seniors, people with disabilities, and other beneficiaries. Donald Trump is a threat to these bedrock programs. As President, I will protect and expand them.”

—KAMALA HARRIS,
Facebook, 8/14/2024

Vice President Kamala Harris has consistently worked to protect Social Security and Medicare, two critical programs that hardworking Pennsylvanians rely on. Harris's record demonstrates her commitment to expanding benefits and ensuring the wealthy pay their fair share, all while safeguarding these essential programs from cuts. **Here's how she's fighting for you:**

EXPANDING SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS:

As a U.S. Senator, Harris **co-sponsored the Social Security Expansion Act**, underscoring her commitment to increasing minimum benefits and adjusting cost-of-living calculations to help beneficiaries afford housing, food, and healthcare.

Sources: NASDAQ, 9/1/2024; CBS, 6/16/2022; U.S. Senate, S. 478, 2/13/2019



MAKING THE RICH PAY THEIR FAIR SHARE:

Harris supports raising taxes on **incomes above \$400,000** to ensure Social Security remains strong. By increasing the payroll tax on only the wealthiest Americans, she's making sure that those who can afford it contribute their fair share to the program.

Source: Kiplinger, 8/31/2024



LOWERING PRESCRIPTION DRUG COSTS:

Working with President Biden, Vice President Harris cast the deciding vote to pass the Inflation Reduction Act, giving Medicare the power to negotiate lower drug prices. This move is projected to **save taxpayers more than \$288 billion over 10 years and reduce out-of-pocket costs** for millions of Americans.

Sources: NASDAQ, 9/1/2024; KFF, 1/24/2023; The Motley Fool, 7/28/2024



PROTECTING MEDICARE:

Harris has worked tirelessly to **protect Medicare from cuts**, understanding that these benefits are vital for seniors and those in need. Her efforts are focused on ensuring Medicare remains available for future generations.

Source: NASDAQ, 9/1/2024



DONALD TRUMP AND JD VANCE PROPOSE CUTTING SOCIAL SECURITY, RAISING THE RETIREMENT AGE, AND SLASHING MEDICARE BENEFITS

Former President Trump will deny it while campaigning, but he has threatened to cut Medicare and Social Security if he wins a second term. He said, “**There is a lot you can do in terms of entitlements, in terms of cutting.**” He has also promised to give the biggest tax breaks to the wealthiest corporations and said we would pay for them by cutting Social Security and Medicare.

Sources: *Forbes*, 8/16/2024; CNBC, 3/11/2024; The Hill, 7/30/2018; CNN, 6/27/2024; Center on Budget & Policy Priorities, 6/13/2024



Trump wants to cut Social Security taxes for seniors. It's not as good as it sounds.

Business Insider, 8/8/2024

Hundreds of proposals in Project 2025 match Trump's policies

CBS News, 8/22/2024



A RISKY PLAN:

Trump's plan to get rid of taxes on Social Security checks is a bad deal for seniors. It would mean smaller Social Security checks and could even hurt Medicare, which helps millions of Americans get the care they need. Experts say his changes could leave these programs **\$1.6 trillion short** over the next decade. This plan would also add billions of dollars to the national debt without helping the economy. **We need to protect Social Security and Medicare, not put them at risk.**

Source: CNBC, 8/9/2024



A RECORD OF BROKEN PROMISES:

Despite his current campaign promise to protect Social Security and Medicare, **every budget proposed by the Trump Administration contained cuts to Social Security and Medicare.** The former President's 2020 budget proposal included cuts to all three safety net programs, including a \$575 billion Medicare reduction.

Sources: *The Washington Post*, 2/9/2023; Vox, 3/12/2019



PRIVATIZING MEDICARE:

Project 2025, created by Trump's allies and former policy advisors, calls for replacing Medicare with a privatized Medicare Advantage program. This would lead to **higher costs and reduced access to care for seniors**, limiting the choice of doctors and requiring prior authorization for many services, which would lead to **delays and increased out-of-pocket costs.**

Source: Yahoo Finance, 7/20/2024