

Social Security and Medicare



Who will protect our retirement?

America's senior citizens have worked hard all their lives, and deserve a secure and dignified retirement. Social Security and Medicare provide hard-earned income and health care to tens of millions of retirees, yet special interests continue to push for risky changes in these guaranteed programs. Working families and retirees need assurance that current and future benefits will be protected.

Where do the candidates stand?



Barack Obama
Democrat



Social Security

Supports guaranteed monthly benefits earned by seniors.

Opposes risky private accounts, which will slash benefits for senior citizens.

Opposes raising the retirement age.

Quad-City Times, 9/21/07

www.barackobama.com/issues/seniors



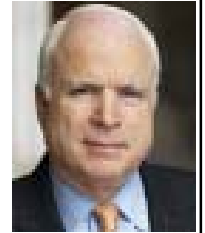
Medicare

Supports strengthening Medicare to continue quality health care for seniors. Favors elimination of taxpayer subsidies for private "Medicare Advantage" plans, which benefit insurance companies, while passing on costs to seniors.

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Voted **against** a steep increase in Medicare premiums for seniors.

S. 1932, Vote 287, 11/3/05



John McCain
Republican

Social Security

Calls the current system of guaranteed monthly benefits for retirees an "absolute disgrace."

Town Hall meeting, Denver, July 9, 2008

Voted for Bush's plan to put Social Security funds into risky private accounts:

"I campaigned in support of President Bush's proposal and I campaigned with him, and I did town-hall meetings with him."

Chicago Tribune, March 3, 2008
S. Con. Res. 18, Vote # 49, 3/15/05;
S. Con. Res. 86, Vote # 56, 4/1/98



Medicare

Voted for **deep cuts** in Medicare funding and to **increase Medicare** premiums paid by retirees. Backs private "Medicare Advantage" plans, a pet cause of the insurance lobby.

S. Con. Res. 83, Vote # 74, 3/14/06;
S. 1932, Vote # 287, 11/3/05



Voted to **raise the eligibility age** for Medicare from 65 to 67.

S. 947, Vote #112, 6/24/97



Supports UAW position and senior citizens



Against UAW position and senior citizens

Vote Tuesday, Nov. 4