



U.S. PRESIDENT Priorities

Q: What will be your top domestic issue priorities if elected? How will you work to break the gridlock to get things done on these issues?

AARP's Position

I commit to help end gridlock by working across party lines to develop and support common-sense, bipartisan solutions on health care and financial security.

Millions of Americans worry about their health and long-term financial security. They fear the future will not be as prosperous for their children and grandchildren. They face competing demands: affording health care, saving for retirement, sending children to college, and supporting aging parents. At the same time, soaring health care costs constrain businesses' ability to grow and compete.

Our elected leaders in Washington have become increasingly unable to solve major issues because of partisan gridlock. Americans want results from our elected leaders, not promises without action. It's time for individuals, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and government to come together to find solutions.

AARP believes that providing quality, affordable health care and improving lifelong financial security for all Americans should be Washington's top domestic priorities.

John McCain (R)

I commit to help end gridlock by working across party lines to develop and support common-sense, bipartisan solutions on health care and financial security.*

*** The candidate chose not to mark a circle.**

Among my highest national priorities would be reforming our nation's failing institutions and assuring American prosperity. Essential to this agenda is supporting the housing market, reforming our health care system, addressing needed reform to our entitlement programs, and enacting needed reforms to ensure we can fund our national priorities, while offering a pro-growth tax code that would promote investment and spur economic growth and job creation. For too long, Washington has been consumed by a hyper-partisanship that treats every challenge facing us as an opportunity to disparage each other's motives and fight about the next election. My career is replete with examples of the type of bipartisan problem solving that we need to address these great challenges and secure our nation's prosperity.

Barack Obama (D)

I commit to help end gridlock by working across party lines to develop and support common-sense, bipartisan solutions on health care and financial security.

My top domestic priorities will be reforming our health care system to ensure all Americans have affordable, quality health coverage; enacting a bold climate-change and energy-independence agenda that creates 5 million new green jobs; and ensuring the long-term growth of our economy. I will build consensus for my proposals that reflects my campaign to engage directly with the American people and reject the old politics of Washington, which has cared more about special interests than the national interest. As a result of that failed politics, more Americans lack health insurance than any other period in history, are paying record gas prices, and have increasing economic insecurity while corporations are raking in record profits. My Presidency will put an end to that failed system.