



# 2008 AARP Voters' Guide

## State Assembly District No. 73

How to use the AARP Voters' Guide:  
Here's how this Voters' Guide works. AARP asked key questions about issues important to our members and their families of each major candidate for this race. Each candidate was allowed up to 125 words to answer each question. AARP did not edit or modify those answers. The candidates were asked to check the support or oppose circles. The candidates may have chosen not to check a circle.

AARP has provided a summary of our position for each of the issues.

- Pass this guide on to friends and family.
- Share your views with the candidates.
- Ask for clarification from any candidate whose answer seems unclear.

Be sure to vote on November 4.

[www.aarp.org/elections](http://www.aarp.org/elections)

Get the facts.  
Use the power.  
**Vote.**

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**AARP**<sup>SM</sup>

*The power to make it better.*<sup>®</sup>

## Legislative Priority

### Question:

*What will be your top state priorities if elected, and how will you work to break the gridlock to get things done on these issues?*

#### AARP POSITION

AARP believes that providing quality, affordable health care and improving lifelong financial security should be top legislative priorities. AARP surveys show that Wisconsinites are worried 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.

Increasingly partisan political gridlock stands in the way of the ability to solve major issues. Wisconsinites want results from elected leaders, not promises without action. It's time for individuals, businesses, non-profit organizations, and government to come together to find solutions.

CANDIDATE:  
**NICK MILROY**  
DEMOCRAT

As the state representative for the 73<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District, I will work to make health care affordable, ensure a quality education for our kids, control taxes and create and maintain family supporting jobs.

As a newcomer to the Assembly, I may be in a better place to work across party lines than other legislators who have been in office for a while. My approach will be to collaborate with members of the Assembly and Senate—from both parties—whenever possible without sacrificing the priorities of the people of the 73<sup>rd</sup> District.

CANDIDATE:  
**JEFFERY MONAGHAN**  
INDEPENDENT

Candidate chose not to respond.

## Health Care Reform

### Question:

*How would you reform the health care system to make it a quality system that is affordable and accessible for every Wisconsinite?*

#### AARP POSITION

AARP believes that all Wisconsinites deserve affordable, quality, and accessible health care. An individual's health care costs, including premiums, deductibles and out-of-pocket costs should be limited to between 5% and 10% of income. In an AARP Wisconsin survey, 69% of respondents age 50 -64 said the healthcare system is in a "state of crisis" or has "major problems." Those who have insurance and those who are uninsured respond similarly to this question. Over half of all respondents said they would be more likely to vote for a candidate who supported healthcare coverage for all Wisconsin residents.

Three quarters of Wisconsinites age 50-64 without health insurance, are working. Half of Wisconsin's uninsured workers are self-employed or work for small employers. Many Wisconsinites are underinsured, paying too much for inadequate coverage.

CANDIDATE:  
**NICK MILROY**  
DEMOCRAT

People who work for a living ought to be able to take their kids to a doctor, and people who are retired, or temporarily out of work shouldn't risk losing their life savings because of one illness.

During the last legislative session we saw several different proposals, ranging from Healthy WI to health savings accounts. The bottom line is that Wisconsin residents deserve the same low cost, high quality health care that politicians receive.

I am not convinced that any of last session's proposals were the silver bullet, but at least we have some ideas to start with for this session.

CANDIDATE:  
**JEFFERY MONAGHAN**  
INDEPENDENT

Candidate chose not to respond.

## Health Care Cost

### Question:

*How do you propose to rein in the cost of health care while maintaining or improving the quality of and access to health care?*

#### AARP POSITION

Across Wisconsin, individuals and employers are telling us that they can't afford health care; cost sharing is increasing and benefits are shrinking.

According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, health insurance premium costs nationwide have increased a cumulative 78% between 2001 and 2007. In an AARP Wisconsin survey, over eight in ten respondents said that making healthcare more affordable for all residents is extremely or very important.

AARP supports benefit packages that provide necessary care including chronic disease management, prescription drug coverage, prevention and wellness, mental health services. AARP also supports stronger oversight of the insurance industry.

AARP believes information technology, such as electronic medical records, would result in better, more efficient care, fewer mistakes and, ultimately, lower costs.

CANDIDATE:  
**NICK MILROY**  
DEMOCRAT

I support utilizing technology to increase the efficiency of our health care system. I also believe that the cost of health care is directly tied to access to health care.

If all Wisconsin residents had access to medical care on a regular basis, we would see a decrease in the number of emergency room visits and could treat patients earlier before their conditions get severe. Our emergency rooms should not be filled with people suffering from the flu—but people go there because they know they can't be turned away and are unable to see a doctor.

CANDIDATE:  
**JEFFERY MONAGHAN**  
INDEPENDENT

Candidate chose not to respond.

## Senior Care

### Question:

*Do you support or oppose the continuation of SeniorCare at current benefit levels?  
How would you ensure the SeniorCare program continues beyond December 2009?*

#### AARP POSITION

AARP Wisconsin and others are working on a plan to improve SeniorCare and provide an even more meaningful benefit to most participants of the program. The plan will be cost neutral to the state and will need legislative approval. According to a recent AARP Rx Watchdog Report, the cost of prescription drugs rose by more than 50%, on average, between 2002 and 2007. In Wisconsin about 100,000 Wisconsinites age 65 and older get help with the cost of their prescription drugs through SeniorCare. However, SeniorCare's future is uncertain because federal funding for the popular program will end in December 2009.

#### CANDIDATE: NICK MILROY DEMOCRAT

I support the continuation of SeniorCare and will work with the Governor, my colleagues in the Legislature and Wisconsin's congressional delegation to ensure the federal government renews Wisconsin's waiver to extend the program beyond December 2009.

SeniorCare has been proven to offer our state's seniors the best possible prescription drug coverage at the best possible price.

#### CANDIDATE: JEFFERY MONAGHAN INDEPENDENT

Candidate chose not to respond.





*If you are not registered to vote, go to [www.aarp.org/makeadifference/politics/](http://www.aarp.org/makeadifference/politics/) and look under Tools for a form to fill out and send to your local voter registrar (the address will be there). Go to the same website if you need an application for an absentee ballot or to find out if your state allows early voting and what dates that will occur.*

AARP Wisconsin  
222 West Washington Ave #600  
Madison, WI, 53703  
1-866-448-3611

## Voter Information Inside

**AARP** 222 West Washington Ave. #600  
Madison WI 53703