

The New Republic ended its editorial with these words:

The continuing agony of the underclass is destroying our cities, our race relations, our sense of civility, our faith in the possibilities of government. It's worth taking some risks to end it.

I urge the President to sign the welfare reform bill.

TERRORISM

(Mr. DURBIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. Speaker, the image of terrorism are ingrained in our minds. What was often seen as someone else's problem is now our problem.

If America is being terrorized without and within, this Congress should not be terrorized by special interest groups opposed to legislation which would protect us. When Congress passed its antiterrorism bill, the gun lobby opposed a provision which would have required tracer particles in explosives so that law enforcement could track the source of terrorist bombs. Sadly, more than 200 Members of Congress bowed to the NRA and voted to deny the FBI this important tool to fight terrorism.

Now we are being asked to pass additional antiterrorism legislation in light of the recent tragedies. But the gun lobby has once again made it clear that it will oppose any effort to put tracers in explosives.

As America would not be intimidated by terrorists, this Congress should not be intimidated by the gun lobby. Before we go home this week, let us pass an antiterrorism bill that will protect American families, not protect special interest groups.

LEGITIMATE WELFARE REFORM

(Mr. ENSIGN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. Speaker, using common sense, would we set up a welfare system that told a pregnant teenage mom, Listen, do not live with your parents; we will get you an apartment; do not get a job; do not save any money; you can have any man live with you except for the father of the child and, by the way, if you want more money, have another child out of wedlock?

Let us put party politics aside here. Let us let the American people win for the first time in a long time. Let us pass this legitimate welfare reform bill that we have on the House floor today.

If you are an able-bodied American, you are going to be required to work. We are going to provide child care money for you to transition from welfare to work, and we are going to provide job training.

We have a program in Las Vegas called Opportunity Village. It is a pro-

gram for mentally disabled people. We have enough compassion in Las Vegas to help people that are mentally disabled get into a job. Let us have enough compassion on welfare recipients to help them get into a job.

THE NRA

(Mr. MILLER of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, if you are involved in a hit-and-run accident today, the police can trace the paint on your car to the exact day it was painted, to where it was painted, to the gallon of paint used and where that car was sold and who owns it.

Today if you use your phone in the commission of a crime, they can trace your calls back to that. But if you blow up the World Trade Center or you blow up the TWA airline or you blow up the park in Atlanta, the NRA will not let them trace the powder in those explosives back to the point of purchase and manufacture to expedite the investigation of who those people were that engaged in this terrorism against American cities and against American citizens. That is an outrage.

A few months ago, 200 Members in this Congress voted to deny the alcohol, tobacco bureau the efforts to make that investigation, the FBI to make those investigations. We should now understand that these tools should be available to the FBI. They should be available to the alcohol, tobacco bureau. They should be available for the investigation to protect American lives.

PRESIDENT CLINTON ON WELFARE REFORM

(Mr. BAKER of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BAKER of California. Mr. Speaker, speaking to the National Governor's Association 2 weeks ago, Bill Clinton sounded like a Republican. He talked about getting tough on irresponsible fathers; he talked about cutting red-tape; he talked about work; he talked about strong families; he even talked about imposing time limits on welfare benefits.

This week, Congress will send the White House the third welfare reform bill that addresses all the concerns raised by the President. It will have real work requirements and real time limits. It is genuine welfare reform; it is common sense; and it will move people from dependence to work and independence.

As Bill Clinton said in one of his radio addresses: "No challenge is more important than replacing our broken welfare system." Mr. Speaker, he's right. But changing something as big and as entrenched as the welfare sys-

tem requires commitment, it requires honesty, and it requires that politicians keep their promises. We can only hope Bill Clinton will do the right thing and sign the bill.

A POLITICAL ANSWER TO TERRORISM

(Mr. SCHUMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, the No. 1 question I was asked when I talked to my constituents on the phone last night and this morning is, why the heck would anyone oppose putting taggants, little tracers in explosives so that we can find those who commit terrorism.

There is no good answer. There is no good substantive answer. There is a political answer.

The reason this House is not going to address the issue of putting taggants, tracers explosives is three letters: NRA.

We all know it is the right thing to do. In fact, at all the hearings our committee held, there were only two groups of people who were against putting these taggants in explosives. Those were either explosive manufacturers or the gun lobby. But the NRA is making a serious mistake here.

The average gun owner does not agree with it. The average gun owner, who has a few hunting rifles or, in the city, carries a gun around for self-defense, they do not see that it is the NRA's business that explosives are tagged so we can find terrorists.

Congress, get with it. Stand up to the NRA and let our law enforcement be able to trace explosives with taggants.

GENUINE WELFARE REFORM

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, liberal Democrats love to portray themselves as the great champions of America's children. The President has even threatened to veto welfare reform for the third time unless, and I quote, it "protects children."

For the last year, Bill Clinton has stood in the way of genuine welfare reform. He seems incapable of showing any determined leadership on any of the pressing social or economic issues facing this Nation. When he does act, he always hides behind children or some other alleged victim.

If Bill Clinton were truly concerned about children and those in need, he would have kept the promises he made in his campaign. He would have kept his promise to end welfare as we know it. He would have kept his promise to balance the budget in 5 years. The list of broken promises goes on and on.

The children of America don't need pandering they need a President who is willing to stand by his word, do the

right thing, and sign commonsense welfare reform.

THE SPIRIT OF THE OLYMPICS

(Mr. LEWIS of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I attended the reopening of the Olympic Centennial Park in Atlanta. Tens of thousands of people, from all over the country and the world, turned out for a memorial service in honor of those killed and injured in the bomb blast that exploded early Saturday morning, shattering the tranquility of the Olympic games. They also turned out to demonstrate that they will not bow to the fear and intimidation of terrorism.

Mr. Speaker, the Olympic games represent the best of the human spirit, and in many ways the response of the people in Atlanta to this vicious act truly represented the Olympic spirit. Yesterday, the people of Atlanta, of Georgia, of our Nation, and the world came together in prayer and solidarity. It was a beautiful and moving experience to be in a crowd representing the true brotherhood of nations.

Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to commend the many people who acted heroically in the wake of this terrorist attack: the medical personnel, the law enforcement officials and the thousands of volunteers who averted an even greater disaster.

Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker, the person who carried out this hideous crime will be found and prosecuted to the full extent of the law. In the meantime, we in the Congress should do everything in our power to pass legislation that will protect our citizens from such attacks in the future.

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WELFARE SHOULD NOT BE A WAY OF LIFE

(Mr. BASS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, between 1965 and 1994 \$5.4 trillion has been spent on welfare. Federal, State, and local welfare spending rose from \$158 billion in 1975 to \$324 billion in 1993.

Now, my colleagues may think that welfare is thought of as providing short-term relief. Well, the fact is that the average stay on welfare today is 13 years.

Now, since 1950 the population of the United States has increased 72 percent, from 151 million to 260 million. At the same time, total welfare spending by Federal, State, and local governments has increased by 1,623 percent.

Mr. Speaker, today the House will pass a historic welfare reform bill that requires work and personal responsibility and lifts families from lives of despair and hopelessness.

Mr. Speaker, welfare should not be a way of life. Commonsense welfare reform will help end the vicious cycle of welfare dependency.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the President to sign this historic welfare proposal.

LET US DO THE JOB RIGHT ON ANTITERRORISM LEGISLATION

(Ms. MCKINNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress from the Metro-Atlanta area I, like the rest of the Nation, was horrified by the senseless bombing of innocent civilians at the Olympic Park.

As Americans, we have had a false sense of security that we are somehow immune to terrorism on our soil. However, Mr. Speaker, we have always had terrorist acts committed against Americans in the United States—we just did not call it terrorism.

Whether it was lynchings, church burnings, abortion clinic bombings, and now attacks by antigovernment groups, terrorism has, unfortunately, always been with us.

Mr. Speaker, it is time now that we dealt with all terrorist acts head on. Although the House passed the President's antiterrorism bill, it was watered-down to the point where it is almost ineffectual.

Now we have an opportunity to reintroduce the antiterrorism tools stripped from the legislation. Let us do the job right this time.

THIS IS THE SPIRIT OF THE OLYMPICS

(Mr. MANZULLO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, Theodore Roosevelt once said the credit belongs to the one who is actually in the arena and who spends time in a worthy cause. This is the spirit of the Olympics.

Shining examples of this indomitable spirit are Judy Wilmarth from Leaf River, IL, and Stephanie Brooks from Algonquin, IL. Judy helped carry the Olympic torch in Illinois, chosen because of her devotion to service to the needy and distribution of food. Fourteen-year old Stephanie Brooks is competing in the Paralympics in Atlanta. She is qualified for the 50- and the 100-meter free style and the 50-meter butterfly swimming events. She competes in these games as an elite athlete. These accomplishments stand in the face of the fact that Stephanie was born with spina bifida which has caused her to lose the use of her legs.

Mr. Speaker, let me take this opportunity to salute these two Olympic champions: Judy Wilmarth and Stephanie Brooks.

FOLLOWING THE ORDERS OF THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION MUST STOP

(Mrs. LOWEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, it is time to give law enforcement officials the tools they need to prevent terrorist attacks in America. The Republican leadership must schedule a vote immediately on stronger measures to fight terrorism.

These proposals—requiring taggants in explosives and enhanced wiretapping authority—are absolutely critical in the war against terrorism.

These provisions should already be law, but were dropped from the original antiterrorism bill that Congress passed earlier this year.

They were dropped because this Republican Congress followed the orders of the National Rifle Association and took them out.

That was unacceptable then and it is unacceptable now.

Speaker GINGRICH must not allow the NRA to hold up swift passage of tough antiterrorism legislation. The Republican leadership must choose the safety and welfare of the American people over the objections of the NRA. This Republican Congress has spent the last 17 months following the orders of the NRA and it must stop.

Congress must take a united stand against terrorism both foreign and domestic now. We must make it very clear that we will use all the resources at our disposal to prevent and punish acts of terror.

NOT ONE LOGICAL REASON FOR THE PRESIDENT NOT TO SIGN CONGRESS' THIRD WELFARE REFORM BILL

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, our children are our country's most precious resource. They are the hope of the future. But today many children will grow up in a cycle of poverty and dependence, and that is a tragedy, Mr. Speaker.

Many of us came to Congress on a promise to do something about the failed welfare state. We want to end dependency, we want to encourage personal responsibility, we want to honor work so that welfare does not become a way of life.

President Clinton has already vetoed two welfare reform bills despite the promise during his campaign to, "end welfare as we know it." the jury is still out on whether or not the President will sign Congress' third effort to reform the welfare system. Personally, I cannot imagine one logical reason why Mr. Clinton would not sign the current bill.