

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 within and without, 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