

Seventh, the bill would maintain State accountability under TANF by extending the current maintenance-of-effort requirement (plus an inflation increase), and by requiring States to generally use Federal funds to supplement, rather than replace, State funding in various low-income programs.

Eight and finally, the measure would call for increased information about State TANF programs and about the status of welfare leavers.

Mr. Speaker, I believe we can pursue these eight goals while maintaining the State general discretion to tailor their own TANF policies. Furthermore, I am hopeful these suggestions can attract bipartisan support on the basis that promoting work and reducing poverty are goals that hopefully draw near universal approval. I look forward to working with the Administration and with all of my colleagues on a TANF reauthorization bill designed to reward work, reduce poverty, and increase self-sufficiency.

SUPPORTING THE NEXT STEP IN
REFORMING WELFARE ACT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2002

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the "Next Step in Reforming Welfare Act" for which I am an original cosponsor.

In 1996, I vehemently opposed the "Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Act," which changed our nation's welfare system, because it removed an important safety net for the poor and the most vulnerable in our society. I still hold these views today.

However, I support the "Next Step in Reforming Welfare Act" because—unlike the 1996 law—this new legislation improves our national safety net and actually helps the poor and most vulnerable in our society. This bill increases funding for TANF, redirects the goal of the program to that of poverty reduction, rewards work, provides new funding for work support programs, like child care, and encourages states to better assist hard-to-serve TANF recipients.

The "Next Step in Reforming Welfare Act" increases the TANF block grant by inflation, and more than doubles child care funding so that more families are able to go to work.

This legislation appropriately redirects the goal of the TANF program to reducing poverty. This replaces the draconian idea that the purpose of welfare is to kick TANF recipients off the rolls as fast as possible. The bill accomplishes this by making child poverty reduction an explicit goal of TANF and by providing \$150 million each year in incentive grants to states who reduce child poverty.

Another important focus of this legislation is its commitment to increasing quality childcare to current and former TANF recipients. The bill triples the portion of the Child Care Development Block Grant available for this purpose. Additionally, the bill requires that all TANF funding used for childcare only be used in facilities that meet state health and safety standards. It also increases the age for which childcare must be available for children from 6 to 13 years old.

This bill directs resources to TANF recipients who suffer from disabilities, substance

abuse, domestic violence, and lack of proficiency in English. It requires states to assess and screen recipients to determine if they need rehabilitative or educational services to go to work. It also provides families in these situations a chance to get on their feet by allowing rehabilitative services to count as a work activity for six months.

These changes in TANF are a first step toward improving our welfare system so that it truly helps poor working families and gives them not just a safety net, but also springboard out of poverty. I hope that my colleagues in the House will work with me to make TANF a program we can all be proud of.

SALUTING FIRST LIEUTENANT
JOHN P. PARKER

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2002

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to First Lieutenant John P. Parker upon his retirement as Commander of the Bay City Post of the Michigan State Police. John's exemplary work ethic and can-do attitude have served as standards of optimism, hard work and determination for his fellow officers, friends, neighbors and all who have come into contact with him during his 27-year career with the Michigan State Police and his more than eight years in charge of the Bay City post.

As a law enforcement officer, devoted father and contributor to our community, John has always impressed others with his lead-by-example approach to any venture he has undertaken. A Lansing native, John began his law enforcement career in 1974 as a radio dispatcher in the Jackson post. After graduating from the police academy in 1977, John served briefly with the Bad Axe post as a trooper before being assigned to the Detroit Freeway post. He later worked in Lansing and Brighton. In 1992, John earned a promotion to First Lieutenant and took command of the Sandusky Post, where he served for a year until his transfer to Bay City.

When John took command of the Bay City post, he had his work cut out for him to restore morale and train a professional core of new troopers to bring the post up to full strength. John modestly credits the sworn officers and civilian staff who have worked for him with rebuilding the post, but he deserves praise for leading the effort. Today, John and those under his command can point proudly to having transformed the Bay City post into one of the more widely respected posts in the state. John's strong sense of duty and superior managerial skills clearly sparked the engine that has driven the Bay City Post to be ranked among the best in the state.

Never one to sit on the sidelines, John also found time to devote to civic, religious and fraternal organizations to serve our community and his fellow citizens. His participation in these organizations, which include the Board of Director of the Bay County Crime Stoppers, the Tri-County Adjudication Program Board of Directors and Knights of Columbus Council 4232, have made a real difference and he should be commended for his involvement. John's wife, Kathy, and his four sons, John, Scott, Chris and Michael, also deserve high

praise for their unselfish support of John in his career goals and his volunteer work.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing gratitude to First Lieutenant John P. Parker for his distinguished service and in wishing him success in all future endeavors. John will no longer carry a badge, but I am confident that the honor and integrity he displayed during his tenure with the Michigan State Police will continue to serve as evidence that he exemplifies the very best values of the men and women in law enforcement.

TRIBUTE TO COL. EDWARD RICE,
JR.

HON. JOHN R. THUNE

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2002

Mr. THUNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Col. Edward Rice, Jr. on his promotion to Brigadier General.

Col. Rice commands the 28th Bomb Wing at Ellsworth Air Force Base in my home state of South Dakota, with 27 B-1 bombers and more than 3,500 military and civilian members.

A graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1978, the Colonel is a command pilot with more than 3,600 flying hours in aircraft such as the B-1B, B-52 and B-2. Throughout this distinguished career, Col. Rice has held numerous key operational and staff positions.

Most recently, Col. Rice returned from commanding B-1 and B-52 operations during Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. The B-1 bomber has been involved in every aspect of the most precise, intense bombing campaign in history, flattening terrorist targets and taking out Taliban strongholds. Col. Rice's bombers were the key to winning in Afghanistan.

Upon his return, Col. Rice stated, "All of us who wear the uniform understand we may be sent into combat. We all know that when duty calls, we'll stand and do what we've been trained to do." That spirit is what makes the U.S. military the best in the world and Col. Rice one of its finest examples.

Yesterday when I spoke with Col. Rice, I was reminded again of what a quality individual he is and what a tremendous asset he is to our country. I am proud of the important role he played in directing missions in the skies above Afghanistan. Mr. Speaker, for all the sophistication of these bombers, we know it is people like Col. Rice who truly help get the job done. I'm proud of how well he represents South Dakota.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Col. Rice for his performance in Operation Enduring Freedom, thank him for his service and congratulate him on his promotion to Brigadier General.

INDIA'S REPUBLIC DAY, JANUARY
26, 2002

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2002

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the most important dates

on the calendar for the people of India, as well as for the people of Indian descent who have settled in the United States and around the world. January 26th is Republic Day, an occasion that inspires pride and patriotism for the people of India.

On January 26, 1950, India became a Republic, devoted to the principals of democracy and secularism. At that time, Dr. Rajendra Prasad was elected as the nation's first president. Since then, despite the challenges of sustaining economic development and promoting tolerance and cooperation amongst its many ethnic, religious and linguistic communities, India has stuck to the path of free and fair elections, a multi-party political system and the orderly transfer of power from one government to its successor.

On that special day in 1950, India adopted its Constitution. Mr. Speaker, it should be noted that India derived key aspects of her Constitution, particularly its statement of Fundamental Rights, from our own Bill of Rights. Last year, on the eve of Republic Day, India's President K.R. Narayanan stated in his address to the nation: "Let us remember, it is under the flexible and spacious provisions of our Constitution, that democracy has flourished during the last fifty years and that India has achieved an unprecedented unity and cohesion as a nation and made remarkable progress in the social and economic fields."

India and the United States both proclaimed their independence from British colonial rule. The Indian independence movement under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi had strong moral support from American intellectuals, political leaders and journalists. Just last week, we paid tribute to one of our greatest American leaders, the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. King derived many of his ideas of non-violent resistance to injustice from the teachings and the actions of Mahatma Gandhi.

As the world's two largest democracies, the United States and India have a natural relationship, based on their shared values of diversity, democracy and prosperity. These two countries have steadily grown closer for the past ten years, and most recently, the United States' campaign to fight global terrorism has brought the two countries even closer.

Following the tragic events of September 11, India was one of the first countries to come forward to the United States with an offer of full assistance and cooperation in this new global fight against terrorism. Prime Minister Vajpayee expressed his deep sympathy regarding the World Trade Center attacks. The attacks in fact took the lives of 250 Indians and Indian-Americans.

Since September 11, there have been a string of terrorist attacks against India. On October 1st, a suicide car bomb exploded in front of the Jammu and Kashmir State assembly while it was in session, killing over 35 people. Cross-border terrorism in Indian-controlled parts of Kashmir has perpetuated on a daily basis. On December 13th, the Indian Parliament building in New Delhi, a great symbol of democracy, was attacked by Pakistani-based terrorists, killing nine police officers, a Parliament worker and the five terrorists. The most recent terrorist attack this past Tuesday on the American Center in Calcutta killed four police officers and wounded 19.

India has sadly been afflicted with terrorism from Pakistani-based terrorist groups that are to be blamed for over 53,000 deaths of inno-

cent Indian citizens throughout the last 15 years. These are in fact the same terrorist groups that belong to the terrorist networks the United States is now fighting against. It is only natural that these two countries are now united in the global fight against terrorism.

Although Republic Day is an occasion to celebrate India's grand achievements and strong U.S.-India ties, it is also important to note that January 26, 2002 marks the one-year anniversary of the earthquake that literally rocked Gujarat. This devastating natural disaster killed more than 20,000 people, injured more than hundreds of thousands of people and in many ways, robbed millions of their homes and their every day lives. Congress soon thereafter passed a resolution expressing their support for providing assistance and in the FY 2002 Foreign Operations bill, \$1 million will be allocated to India for natural disaster preparedness.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I want to note that throughout the South Asian region, India stands alone as a pillar of democracy, stability and growth. I join both Indians in India and over 1.6 million Indians living here in the United States in celebrating India's Republic Day.

IDAHO OLYMPIC TORCH RUNNERS

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 24, 2002

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, in two weeks the world will descend on Salt Lake City to watch the 19th annual Winter Olympic Games. This is an exciting time, especially in my home state of Idaho, where many Idahoans are only a few hours away from witnessing an event of worldwide proportions.

Starting on February 8, the world will turn to the western United States to witness human triumph. We'll see amazing athletes compete on a world level—showing us how pushing the body and the mind can make history. But shortly, there will be another show of triumph and history. It's been occurring across the Nation one state, one town, one person, one day at a time.

While the world will see record setting athletes in Salt Lake City, every day Americans have been carrying the Olympic spirit across the United States. I rise today to honor the men and women who this weekend in Idaho will carry the Olympic flame. Each was selected from thousands of applicants. The torch carriers are everyday Idahoans who make Idaho a great place to live. They are mothers, fathers, business owners, school children, Boy Scouts, cancer survivors, volunteers and good Samaritans.

While millions will tune into the Olympics, the real stars are those citizens who make the United States the land of the free. Idahoans will see exceptional people like Jennifer Debble who miraculously survived multiple injuries in an auto accident or World War II veteran Robert Streib who saw action in North Africa and Italy. There's also Lori Zenahlik who lost her four children and husband in an airplane crash in 1998 or Karen Dunn of Boise who survived breast cancer and volunteers daily in community affairs. Each of the torch bearers has a unique story and a once in a

lifetime opportunity to pass on the Olympic torch. I am proud of each of these Idahoans and the hundreds more who were nominated. As we look to Salt Lake city to see the spectacular show, I am pleased to honor everyday stars that live among us as our neighbors, friends and family.

As a tribute to them, I have included their names and hometowns so that all of Congress can know that Idaho stands strong and represents the Olympic spirit.

Cheryl Bolden, White Bird, ID; Larry Davis, Post Falls, ID; Lindsey Davis, Post Falls, ID; Cathleen Gephart, Coeur d'Alene, ID; Megan Rivera, Kamiah, ID; Brandy Wieggers, Moscow, ID; Dustin Ainsworth, Nampa, ID; Curt Apsey, Boise, ID; Karie Arnold, Meridian, ID; Gary Beard, Nampa, ID; Ben Blake, Nampa, ID; Jakob Bourgoin, Boise, ID; Thomas Bowman, Weiser, ID; Kristin Buchanan, Boise, ID; Tamra Buchanan, Boise, ID.

Darin Burrell, Boise, ID; Caroline Butler, Boise, ID; Eileen Butler, Boise, ID; Dustin Charters, Emmett, ID; Lance Coleman, Boise, ID; Teresa Coleman, Meridian, ID; Fred Cornforth, Caldwell, ID; Richard Cortez, Eagle, ID; Eva Cunningham, Boise, ID; Edward Davis, Boise, ID; Lynnette Davis, Boise, ID; Ava DeAngelis, Meridian, ID; Jennifer Deeble, Bosie, ID; Ralph Deklotz, Boise, ID; Karen Dunn, Boise, ID; Michael Eisenbeiss, Sr., Meridian, ID; Jenny Enochson, Eagle, ID; Jim Everett, Boise, ID; Gregory Farmer, Boise, ID; Jon Fishburn, Boise, ID.

Thomas Fleck, Boise, ID; James Freeman, Parma, ID; Nicholas Gifford, Boise, ID; Kaysha Goleman, Parma, ID; Vanessa Gomes, Middleton, ID; Mary Grant, Boise, ID; Nancy Greenwald, Boise, ID; Gary Hagler, Chubbuck, ID; Jay Scot Halladay, Boise, ID; Butch Hansen, Grand View, ID; Carolyn Holly, Boise, ID; Alain Isaac, Mountain Home, ID; Andrea Jackson, Eagle, ID; Kenny Keene, Emmett, ID; Brenda Kiser, Eagle, ID; Mitch Knothe, Boise, ID; Michelle Kormanik, Boise, ID; Theresa Korn, Boise, ID; Jentry Kuebler, Boise, ID; Ricky L. Lewis, Boise, ID; Kent Lind, Meridian, ID.

Jason Lingard, Boise, ID; Carol Lurook, Meridian, ID; Catherine Lynch, Boise, ID; Nicolas Martell, Weiser, ID; Rick Martin, Boise, ID; Kevin Maybon, Mountain Home, ID; Jennifer McPherson, Nampa, ID; Gayle Menlove, Meridian, ID; Lynn Miracle, Boise, ID; Todd Monroe, Nampa, ID; John Murray, Eagle, ID; Morley Nelson, Boise, ID; Lester P Nyborg, Eagle, ID; Darin Ogden, Eagle, ID; Elsie M Osburn, Boise, ID; Danielle Oster, Boise, ID; J Zeb Oswald, Middleton, ID; Jim Peters, Eagle, ID; Cathy Peterson, Meridian, ID; Jene Prudent, Kimberly, ID.

John Quinn, Boise, ID; Jim Rabdau, Boise, ID; Dave Rittersbacher, Council, ID; Bradley Robert, Boise, ID; Barbara Roberts, Boise, ID; David Roedel, Boise, ID; Kelsey Roedel, Boise, ID; Karla Russell, Garden Valley, ID; Douglas Sato, Boise, ID; Shari R Shippy, Middletown, ID; Harold S Southworth, Boise, ID; Alex Spangler, Boise, ID; Meredith St. Clair, Eagle, ID; Kyle Starratt, Boise, ID; Robert Streib, Boise, ID; Ryan Sullivan, Boise, ID; Robert Teska, Nampa, ID; John Thomas, Boise, ID; Jamie Thomson, Boise, ID; Eileen Thornburgh, Boise, ID.

Bruce Turner, Boise, ID; Jose Villa, Eagle, ID; Dar Walters, Boise, ID; Matthew J Watson, Nampa, ID; Karen White, Boise, ID; Ruth Wieggers, Boise, ID; Rene Woekener, Boise,