

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 305

Expressing the sense of Congress that Major League Baseball officials should select Monterrey, Mexico, to host 25 percent of the total number of Montreal Expos games in the 2004 season as a gesture of goodwill between the United States and Mexico.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 17, 2003

Mr. FILNER submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that Major League Baseball officials should select Monterrey, Mexico, to host 25 percent of the total number of Montreal Expos games in the 2004 season as a gesture of goodwill between the United States and Mexico.

Whereas the Montreal Expos were bought by the other 29 Major League Baseball franchises between the 2001 and 2002 seasons;

Whereas to increase revenue, Major League Baseball officials decided to relocate 22 Montreal Expos' home games in the 2003 season to San Juan, Puerto Rico, where the Expos drew an average attendance of 14,222, compared to an average attendance of 12,081 in Montreal in the 2003 season;

Whereas Monterrey, Mexico, is a metropolitan area with a population of about 3.8 million people, is located approximately 130 miles south of Laredo, Texas, and is one of the safest cities in Latin America;

Whereas in 1999 the San Diego Padres and the Colorado Rockies played the major league season opener before a sellout crowd of 27,104 in Monterrey, and in 1996 the San Diego Padres and the New York Mets played a 3-game series in Monterrey;

Whereas Monterrey is the longtime home of the Monterrey Sultans of the Mexican League, and their stadium, Estadio Monterrey, is a ballpark that could be expanded to more than 30,000 seats;

Whereas Monterrey Industrial Little League has won 2 Little League World Series Championships, and Monterrey is home to 1,500 Dallas Cowboys season ticket holders and therefore Monterrey has a strong sports history;

Whereas Major League Baseball officials have spent many months discussing a long-term site for the Montreal Expos franchise, and despite their intention to choose a location by the end of the regular season, no long-term site has yet been selected for the 2004 season; and

Whereas a commitment from Major League Baseball officials to play 25 percent of the total number of Montreal Expos' home games in the 2004 season in Mexico would be a gesture of friendship and goodwill between our countries and cultures, like that shared with our other neighbor, Canada: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring),*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Resolution may be cited as the “‘If You Build
3 It They Will Come’ Baseball Friendship Resolution”.

4 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.**

5 It is the sense of Congress Major League Baseball
6 officials should select Monterrey, Mexico, to host 25 per-
7 cent of the total number of the Montreal Expos’ home
8 games in the 2004 season as a show of goodwill between
9 the United States and Mexico.

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