

## TRIBUTE TO BURT HUNT

**HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2001*

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Burt Hunt, a treasured Principal of Alvarado Intermediate School in my community of Rowland Heights, California. With great respect, he is retiring from the Rowland Unified District after thirty-six grateful years in education. Mr. Burt Hunt exemplifies what it means to be a public servant. His life has been dedicated to serving others and helping students achieve a higher standard in their academic education.

Mr. Burt's major contributions to the community have touched the lives of many. Burt began his career as a teacher at Hurly Elementary School, which was a poverty-stricken area. He then moved on to become the principal of Blandford Elementary School in 1974 and then moved back to Hurly Elementary School as the principal. Here, with his leadership, Hurly Elementary proudly became a California Distinguished School. In 1988, Burt became the principal of Alvarado Intermediate School, where he began a program of reform that stressed the academic, social, and emotional need of his students. The program showed students improving academically and those with remedial needs began to have success.

In 1994, Alvarado Intermediate School proudly became the first secondary school in the District to gain recognition as a California Distinguished School. With the leadership of Burt, Alvarado Intermediate School was again recognized by becoming the District's first National Blue Ribbon School.

It is with great honor that I commend Burt Hunt for his commitment to helping the children of his community become educated. His presence as a leader as a principal will be sorely missed. However, his tradition and leadership will be remembered and continued by those who knew him.

## TRIBUTE TO ROBERT W. WILLIAMS, JR.

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2001*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Robert W. Williams Jr. of South Carolina, who is a recipient of the National Distinguished Presidential Award from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). His service to South Carolina includes countless hours attracting new industry and better jobs to the Pee Dee area of South Carolina. His commitment to rural initiatives has afforded a better quality of life to innumerable South Carolinians.

Mr. Williams embarked upon his career in rural electrification as chief engineer at Onconee Electric Membership located in Dudley, Georgia. In 1966, he became general manager of Onconee. During that time, he

served as special advisor on rural electrification to the Shah of Iran at the behest of the United States State Department and helped develop a national electrification plan for the entire country.

As National Rural Electric Cooperative Association team leader for 4 years in the Philippines, he directed the Philippines Government's Department of Economic Development on National and International Finance for National Electrification Programs and successfully lobbied the Philippine Congress to pass a National Electrification Act that he initially drafted. Mr. Williams was awarded the Philippine's highest civilian award for his service by President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines.

Mr. Williams joined Pee Dee Electric in 1971 as General Manager. He has also served as Executive Vice President and currently serves as President and CEO. His visionary leadership at Pee Dee Electric Cooperative has earned the cooperative the rank of number 1 electric cooperative in South Carolina and in the top 5% nationally.

He is a fierce advocate of education and economic development in the Pee Dee region. He serves on the Francis Marion University Board of Trustees, the Francis Marion University Foundation board, and serves as the Finance and Investments Officer on the School's Foundation Board of Trustees. He has been awarded honorary membership in the Francis Marion School of Business honor society, Beta Gamma Sigma. He is a past Vice Chairman of the Florence County Economic Development Authority.

From 1976 to 1987, Robert Williams served as a member, national director, and Chairman of the National Retirement, Safety and Insurance Committee with the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, Washington DC. He served as National Director and President of the National Rural Telecommunication Cooperative from 1984 to 1996, and as Vice Chairman and Director of the South Carolina Aeronautics Commission from 1992 to 1994. He became the president of Pee Dee Electric, Inc. in 1984 and President of Pee Dee Service Corporation in 1988 and currently holds those positions, as well.

Mr. Williams' many accomplishments and achievements include: being awarded the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest civilian award, in 1995, and being honored with a tribute from the Pee Dee Electric Cooperative Board of Trustees for his numerous contributions to the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me today in honoring Mr. Robert W. Williams Jr. for the extraordinary service he has provided for the residents of South Carolina. He is a personal friend and trusted advisor. I sincerely thank Mr. Williams for the outstanding contributions he has given to the State of South Carolina through his distinguished service to the field of rural electrification and economic development. I congratulate him on all of his accomplishments, and wish him good luck and God-speed in his future endeavors.

## THE FAIRNESS IN ANTITRUST IN NATIONAL SPORTS (FANS) ACT

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2001*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce today the "Fairness in Antitrust in National Sports Act"—better known as the "FANS Act".

After one of the greatest World Series of all time that gave a much needed boost to the entire Country, I was shocked by Major League Baseball's decision just two days later to eliminate two teams as early as December 15th of this year.

This is why it is imperative that Congress move quickly on the FANS Act to insure that anti-competitive decisions by Major League Baseball concerning the elimination or relocation of teams are subject to the antitrust laws like all other professional sports and businesses. I want to make clear that the particular modifications to the antitrust laws made by the FANS Act is not intended to imply that baseball's antitrust exemption currently exists beyond the scope of the court's decision in *Piazza v. Major League Baseball*.

Any time 30 of the wealthiest and most influential individuals get together behind closed doors and agree to reduce output, that cannot be a good thing for anyone but the monopolists. If GM and Ford got together and jointly agreed to cut production, people would be outraged. That is exactly what baseball has done.

In 1922 the Supreme court erroneously held that baseball was a "game" that did not involve "interstate commerce" and was therefore beyond the reach of the antitrust laws. The Supreme Court upheld the exemption in a case brought in 1972 by Curt Flood, one of the greatest players of his time. But now that professional baseball is a \$3 Billion annual business and the time has long since passed when it can be contended that baseball does not constitute "interstate commerce." This is why in 1998, I led the way in repealing the exemption as it applies to labor disputes, in the well named "Curt Flood Act"—now it is time to finish the job.

The elimination of baseball teams from a particular city, be it Minnesota, Montreal or Florida, will result in the loss of millions of dollars in revenue to the local economy and the loss of thousands of jobs. Not just the jobs of baseball players, but the jobs of ticket takers, food vendors, security personnel, and numerous others.

A little competition is good for everyone. If the antitrust laws can apply to major league football, basketball, and hockey, there is not a reason in the world they cannot apply to major league baseball. Let's level the playing field once and for all.

## TRIBUTE TO MACKAY, IDAHO

**HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2001*

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to proudly pay tribute to the city of Mackay,