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 Electricom, 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 Godspeed 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, Idaho. Mackay is celebrating 100 years as the ''top of Idaho.''

With an elevation of 5,897 feet, Mackay is nestled near Mt. Borah, Idaho's highest mountain. Gold, silver, lead and copper were discovered in the White Knob Mountains above Mackay in the 1880s. Over 100 years, the area yielded nearly one million tons of ore resulting in 41,996 ounces of gold, 1.7 million ounces of silver, 15.1 million pounds of lead, 5.49 pounds of zinc, and 62.2 pounds of copper.

What started Mackay was mining millionaire John Mackay's vision of a 12-mile electric mountain railway system to transport ore down the mountain. Because of the massive project of building the railway system, John Mackay planned the town around the railroads final stop. Named after himself, the town Mackay was officially incorporated on October 14, 1901.

In its 100 years, Mackay has seen the best of the mining boom. During World War I, the mines around Mackay supplied ore for red metal. By 1917, Mackay was a thriving town of 400 with a post office, movie house, many businesses, saloons and pool halls.

At one point, the town grew to be home to roughly 5,000 residents. The mining boom, coupled with range livestock, dairy, and crops created a positive economic environment in which the town flourished and its residents enjoyed their prosperity.

Unfortunately, however, the history of the West is checkered with cycles of boom and bust, many of which center around the West's most precious commodity—water. When Mackay and the surrounding region were hit by a severe drought, tempers rose and times grew more desperate—including a farmer revolt in 1933 that led to the dynamiting of a headgate in a last ditch effort to release water held behind a dam.

In 1983, the Mt. Borah earthquake leveled the Mackay City Hall and damaged several businesses. Despite its trials, Mackay continues to be a destination spot for many. With its breathtaking views and proximity to Idaho's scenic rivers and pristine backcountry, Mackay showcases the best Idaho has to offer.

Mackay is a town that epitomizes the rugged West and my home state of Idaho. Mackay's residents are hard working Idahoans, who love their town, state and country. I want to add my heart-felt congratulations to the citizens of this beautiful place that literally is the top of Idaho.

A TRIBUTE TO THE MAYOR OF RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA—THE HONORABLE ROSEMARY CORBIN

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2001

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to pay tribute today to a great mayor, a dedicated public servant, and a wonderful person as she ends a truly remarkable and successful 8-year career as Mayor of the City of Richmond, California.

Rosemary Corbin has made a tremendous difference for the people of Richmond and the entire Bay Area of San Francisco. She is a leader and a fighter and she gets things done. I am proud to have been able to work closely with her over the years to coordinate federal