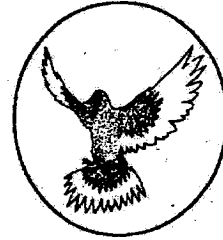


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Filner Wants To Bring MLB's Expos To Monterrey Next Season

Congressman Bob Filner last week introduced the "If You Build It They Will Come" Baseball Friendship Act in the United States House of Representatives. The bill urges Major League Baseball to select the city of Monterrey, Mexico as the host for a quarter of the Montreal Expos' games next season - as a show of goodwill between the United States and Mexico.

"Baseball has been a part of the friendship between the U.S. and Canada for decades," said Congressman Filner. "It's time that we include Mexico and make baseball the North American pastime!"

The Montreal Expos are now owned by the other 29 Major League Baseball franchises. Because of this, Major League Baseball has the authority to decide where the Expos will play their home games. During the 2003 season, to increase revenue, Major League Baseball relocated 22 Expos home games to San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Monterrey, the site proposed by Filner, is a metropolitan area of about 3 million people, 130 miles south of Laredo, Texas. It is one of the safest cities in Latin America. Monterrey has played host to a number of successful major league baseball games over

the last few years, and is the long-time home to the Sultans of the Mexican League and the Sultans ballpark - that could be expanded to more than 30,000 seats.

In recent weeks, the United States Ambassador to Mexico, Tony Garza, has written to the Commissioner of Major League Baseball, Bud Selig, urging the League to play a quarter of their home games in Mexico.

"A commitment from Major League Baseball to play a quarter of the Montreal Expos' home games in Mexico would be a strong statement of friendship and goodwill between our countries and cultures," said Filner. "For the good of baseball, for the good of the people of these two great nations, if we build it, they will come!"