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Baseball

Wednesday, February 15, 1995

Background

Baseball officials and negotiators appear before the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Anti-trust, Business and Competition today to testify on Senators Hatch and Moynihan's bill that would partially repeal baseball's 73-year old anti-trust exemption by allowing the players to sue if the owners unilaterally impose work rules.

The White House will not take a position on the bill. It appears that our legislation is going nowhere on the Hill. It also appears that there is little momentum for the Hatch-Moynihan bill.

Q: What's your position on the Hatch/Moynihan bill?

A: The White House sent legislation to the Hill last week that would submit the owners and players to binding arbitration. If legislation is the means to get the dispute resolved, we are obviously looking at that legislation as part of the solution.

In the meantime, Mr. Usery is still talking to both sides, and our hope is that this can be worked out at the bargaining table.

The President still feels strongly that baseball is in the national interest and if the strike continues, there is an immediate and substantial threat to a large number of communities.

drafted by: GT