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## **Press Release - Muskie Comments on President's Environmental Message, Expresses Disappointment on Budget Requests**

Edmund S. Muskie

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# **MUSKIE**

**Maine**

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FOR RELEASE

IMMEDIATELY

Wednesday, February 10, 1971

## **MUSKIE COMMENTS ON PRESIDENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL MESSAGE, EXPRESSES DISAPPOINTMENT ON BUDGET REQUESTS**

Senator Edmund S. Muskie (D-Maine) today issued the following statement on the President's environmental message to the Congress:

I appreciate and welcome the broad coverage of the President's environmental message and his warning that the program he is proposing will require some adjustments by governments at all levels, by the industrial and business community, and by Americans as individual citizens. Only a truly national, and a truly willing, effort will enable us to reach the goals set forth in the message.

I am disappointed, however, that the President's budget requests for environmental programs will not be adequate to implement these otherwise laudable goals or to meet levels authorized by the Congress last year.

His message calls for a Federal program to encourage recycling of solid wastes but his budget asks only \$19.2 million to implement a \$150 million resource recovery program passed last year.

His message calls for a tax on sulfur and a tax on lead to encourage a reduction in air pollution, but his budget asks only \$128 million of \$390 million authorized for Fiscal Year 1972.

His message calls for the regulation of noise pollution that interrupts sleep, disturbs communication, creates stress, and can produce deafness, but his budget asks \$235 million to build prototypes of the supersonic transport plane.

I am eager to see the Administration's bills designed to carry out the President's recommendations. I assure him the Subcommittee on Air and Water Pollution will open public hearings on his and other proposals for water pollution control at the earliest possible date.