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**Press Release - Muskie Blames Administration Policies for High
Unemployment in Biddeford-Sanford Area, Urges Passage of
Emergency Employment Act**

Edmund S. Muskie

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For Release
SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 1971

**MUSKIE BLAMES ADMINISTRATION POLICIES FOR HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT IN BIDDEFORD-SANFORD AREA
URGES PASSAGE OF EMERGENCY EMPLOYMENT ACT**

Senator Edmund S. Muskie (D-Maine) issued the following statement Sunday while visiting Portland:

The designation of Biddeford-Sanford as a labor market of substantial unemployment brings home the problems of our national economic crisis. Skilled workers, who have helped to build their communities, are without work. Their families face uncertain futures, and their communities will suffer the loss of tax resources to support schools and other public services.

For the Biddeford-Sanford area, high unemployment is not a new condition. In the past, the area has been on the list of substantial unemployment and has been helped to get off by first the Area Redevelopment Administration and then by the Economic Development Administration. The "tight money" economic policies of the national administration over the last two years have put the Biddeford-Sanford area back on the list.

Maine has been engaged in a determined effort to expand employment opportunities for the past 15 years. Governor Curtis, as Maine field director for the Area Redevelopment Administration and as governor, has provided leadership in the drive for better jobs in a better environment.

But we cannot do it alone. We need the support of the federal government and national resources. That is why the designation of these eight cities underlines the urgency of passing the new Emergency Employment Act, of which I am a co-sponsor. If this act were law, our unemployed workers could be working. That is why we must increase the effectiveness of the tool we already possess, the Economic Development Administration.

The people of Biddeford and the people of Sanford and the other cities want to work. They are skilled craftsmen. They are good workmen. They are dedicated Americans. They need our help.