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## **Press Release - Muskie Calls for Broader Action to Help Shoe Industry**

Edmund S. Muskie

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# **MUSKIE**

**Maine**

(202) 225-5344

**FOR RELEASE**

**IMMEDIATELY**

**Friday,**

**April 9, 1971**

## **MUSKIE CALLS FOR BROADER ACTION TO HELP SHOE INDUSTRY**

Senator Edmund S. Muskie (D-Maine) today expressed his satisfaction with the Administration's decision to consider special assistance for some 3,000 shoe workers affected by foreign competition -- but he said the action was inadequate because it leaves broader problems unsolved.

"The move is an important, but only partial, answer to the critical questions facing the shoe industry," Mr. Muskie said in a statement.

"This decision may help the 350 persons formerly employed by the Maine Shoe Corporation in Brunswick which closed in December, 1969. But it puts off to another day a solution of the more fundamental problems facing the 25,000 workers employed in the Maine footwear industry and the thousands more dependent on them. And for the workers laid off 16 months ago, this action may be a little too late.

"I deeply regret that the Administration has refused to provide an adequate solution to the difficulties of the shoe industry in view of the dislocations caused by dramatic and sudden increases in foreign imports.

"I will do all I can to ensure that Maine workers covered by yesterday's ruling receive the benefits available to them.

"Since the Administration has failed to come to grips with the broader issue of economic dislocation, Congress must. I intend to introduce legislation that will deal directly with this serious problem."

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