

Bates College

**SCARAB**

---

Congressional Records

Edmund S. Muskie Papers

---

7-9-1971

## **Press Release - Muskie Opposes Nominees to National Commission on Materials Policy**

Edmund S. Muskie

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scarab.bates.edu/mcr>

---

# MUSKIE

Maine

(202) 225-5344

FOR RELEASE

CONTACT: DICK WILSON

IMMEDIATELY  
July 9, 1971

## MUSKIE OPPOSES NOMINEES TO NATIONAL COMMISSION ON MATERIALS POLICY

Senator Edmund S. Muskie, Chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Air and Water Pollution, released today the texts of two letters opposing administration nominations for membership on the National Commission on Materials Policy.

The Maine Democrat pointed out that none of the seven nominees is a representative of local government.

Muskie said, "Local government has the most serious solid waste problem and will be the most severely affected by any materials policy which results from this study."

The Materials Policy Commission was established by the Resource Recovery Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-510). Senator Muskie was the chief sponsor of the legislation which was developed by the Subcommittee on Air and Water Pollution.

The first of the two letters released today is addressed to Senator Muskie by the National League of Cities and the United States' Conference of Mayors. The second is the Senator's own letter addressed to Senator Jennings Randolph, Chairman of the Senate Public Works Committee which will consider the nominations.

Nominees for membership on the Materials Policy Commission are Lynton Caldwell of Indiana; Jerome L. Klaff of Maryland; J. Hugh Liedtke of Texas; Lee W. Minton of Pennsylvania; Interior Secretary Rogers C.B. Morton; Frederick Seitz of New York; and Commerce Secretary Maurice H. Stans.

Copies of the letters are attached:

*MUSKIE*

*Maine*

(202) 225-5344

COPY

FOR RELEASE

June 30, 1971

The Honorable Edmund S. Muskie  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Air and  
Water Pollution  
Senate Public Works Committee  
6233 New Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator Muskie:

The National League of Cities and the U.S. Conference of Mayors view with some disappointment the list of nominees to serve on the National Commission of Materials Policy. While we do not question the qualifications of any of the nominees, we are concerned that the list contains no representatives of local government although localities have prime responsibility for collecting and finding places to dispose of solid waste. Local governments, through escalating solid waste costs, have borne a large share of the burden of the decision of American industry to increasingly emphasize disposable and non-reusable products. Local representation on the National Commission Materials Policy is absolutely necessary to assure adequate recognition of the problem which the proliferation of solid waste is creating for local governments including the rapidly escalating costs of waste collection and disposal and the difficulties in finding adequate disposal methods consistent with today's concerns for protection of our air, water, and land resources from unnecessary degradation.

Local governments, facing the financial crises they do, have a high stake in any determinations relating to National Materials Policy. This local interest and expertise in solid waste management should be represented on the National Commission on Materials Policy.

Sincerely,

Patrick Healy  
Executive Vice President  
National League of Cities

John J. Gunther  
Executive Director  
U.S. Conference of Mayors

# MUSKIE

Maine

(202) 225-5344

C O P Y

FOR RELEASE

7 July 1971

Honorable Jennings Randolph  
Chairman  
Committee on Public Works  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Jennings:

I understand that the Committee will consider the nominations for membership on the National Commission on Materials Policy in executive session tomorrow morning.

Enclosed is a letter which I have received from the National League of Cities-U. S. Conference of Mayors expressing concern with the membership of this Commission. You will note that none of those appointed are representative of local government, and yet local government has the most serious solid waste problem and will be the most severely affected by any materials policy which results from this study. I would hope that before the Committee acts to confirm these nominations an attempt will be made to ascertain the extent to which the nominees are cognizant of community problems and will consult with community leaders in the process of carrying out this important study.

I regret that the President chose not to select a representative of the nation's cities, but realize the need to expedite this study. Therefore, I will not object to confirmation if an adequate response to the questions I have raised is received.

Best personal regards.

Sincerely,

EDMUND S. MUSKIE, U.S.S.  
Chairman, Subcommittee on  
Air and Water Pollution