

Bates College

SCARAB

Congressional Records

Edmund S. Muskie Papers

12-21-1971

**Press Release - Senator Muskie Pledges Fight to Reform
Bargaining Power of Retired Workers**

Edmund S. Muskie

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

MUSKIE News

1972 K STREET, N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

TELEPHONE (202) USA 1972

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(December 21, 1971)

CONTACT: Dick Stewart
Herb Hadad
833-3850

SENATOR MUSKIE PLEDGES FIGHT TO REFORM BARGAINING POWER OF RETIRED WORKERS

Senator Edmund S. Muskie (D-Me.) has issued the following statement on the Supreme Court decision that holds that bargaining over retirees' benefits is not mandatory:

Earlier this month, the U.S. Supreme Court held bargaining over retirees' benefits not to be a mandatory subject of collective bargaining. This is a disturbing decision. No single group in the United States needs the protection of mandatory collective bargaining more than the older people who no longer have economic power to hold and improve their meager retirement benefits.

The Pittsburgh Plate Glass decision permits unions and companies voluntarily to agree to bargain over those on retirement. I am confident that, despite the decision of the Supreme Court on this crucial issue, socially responsible employers will continue to bargain with unions on retiree benefits. I know the labor movement will not turn its back on its retired members.

If the Supreme Court's limited decision, however, is used to deprive retired workers of their due. I pledge that I will lead the fight for legislative reform to eliminate this kind of abuse.

XX

XX

XX

XX