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Press Release - Muskie Joins Senate Resolution Urging Support of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty

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FOR RELEASE

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IMMEDIATELY
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MUSKIE JOINS SENATE RESOLUTION URGING SUPPORT OF RADIO FREE EUROPE AND RADIO LIBERTY

Senator Edmund S. Muskie (D-Me) today joined a bipartisan group of over 40 Senators in co-sponsoring a Senate Resolution expressing "continued appreciation of the valuable work being performed by the personnel of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty" and the Senate's intention "to provide adequate support to these two radios while the methods for future support are carefully examined within the framework of the United States foreign policy objectives." The Resolution was introduced today by Senator Charles H. Percy (R-Ill.) and Senator Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.).

In a Senate statement on Wednesday, March 1, Senator Muskie said that "these stations have, at relatively modest costs, provided services whose value cannot be measured in monetary terms by the people who have depended on Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty for news." Muskie declared that the two radios "should not be permitted to die" while Congress determines the best methods of future control of the radios.

"For more than twenty years, millions of people in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union have had to rely on Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty for news of the political, economic and social issues their governments chose not to disclose - news about their own countries and the outside world," Muskie said. "It is regrettable that the people needed outside sources of news, but as long as this need has existed, Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty have provided the vital function of trying to keep these people informed."

The full Senate statement is attached.

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