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## **Press Release - Muskie Opposes Butz Decision on Milk Prices**

Edmund S. Muskie

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# MUSKIE

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FOR RELEASE

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IMMEDIATELY  
March 10, 1972

## MUSKIE OPPOSES BUTZ DECISION ON MILK PRICES

Senator Edmund S. Muskie (D-Me) released the following statement today, in opposition to Secretary of Agriculture Earl L. Butz's decision to leave price supports for milk at less than 80% of parity for the coming year:

I am extremely disappointed at Secretary Butz's decision to leave the price supports for milk at last year's level. This means that price supports for milk will be less than 80% of parity for the coming year.

Today's decision will be a heavy blow to America's dairy farmers. Our nation's dairy farmers are in sufficient trouble as it is. Now they will be forced to pay next year's bills with last year's income. We certainly know now, if we had not known before, how little the Nixon Administration cares about the American family farmer.

The farmers of this country ask only one thing: that they get a fair price for their product. Without a fair return on their labor and investment, thousands of family farmers will be forced to sell their farms and leave the land. Today's decision by Secretary Butz, rather than alleviating this problem, contributes to it. It is time that the Administration realized how important the family farmer is to American life, and it is time we all did something to safeguard his future.

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