

# ***Legislation and Blue Color Workers***

The Senate Post Office and Civil Service Committee has reported legislation which effects the retirement of some federal employees and provides for retroactive pay raises for blue collar federal workers.

Sen. Ted Stevens, a member of the committee, said that one bill would permit early retirement for employees who leave the federal service of their own accord when a reduction in force is impending.

Present law permits retirement on a reduced annuity only to employees who are separated involuntarily on account of a reduction in force.

Two House-approved bills reported without amendments are:

One, which effects several thousand Alaskan blue collar workers, provides for retroactive pay increases for blue collar federal employees whose pay increases were banned by President Nixon's pay freeze in 1971.

The retroactive pay will extend back to the date on which the pay increases would have been effective had wage surveys been established on time.

The second House bill was approved for early retirement of air traffic controllers, a re-training program and new appeals procedures for controllers.