ESTABLISHING A RESOURCE CENTER ON UNIONS AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

What We’re Doing
The Department of Labor will establish a resource center for information on unions and collective bargaining for the use of workers, unions, employers, researchers, other government agencies, and policymakers. The resource center will provide information on:

• Union membership – numbers, demographics, industries, and geographical distribution.
• The impacts of unionization, including pay and benefit advantages, particularly for women workers and workers of color.
• Accomplishments reached through collective bargaining and other labor-management partnerships, including success in confronting the challenges of the COVID pandemic.
• Worker organizing campaigns, with profiles of workers who are organizing and the issues that are motivating the campaign.
• Employer persuader activity, e.g., the consultants employers hire to run anti-union campaigns.
• The importance of unionization to a strong, fair economy, strong democracy, and robust workplace protections.

Why We’re Doing It
Through the resource center, DOL will build greater awareness and understanding of the benefits of unions and collective bargaining. DOL is in a unique position to house this resource center because of its mission to foster, promote, and develop the welfare of workers. The information can be utilized by other agencies and policymakers at the federal, state, and local levels as they consider actions they can take to support worker organizing and collective bargaining.

Why It Matters for Worker Organizing and Collective Bargaining
There is a more than 400% gap between the percentage of workers who currently have union representation (12%) and the percentage of non-union workers who say they want a union (52%).

Making information more widely available about the benefits and advantages of unionization for all workers will inform and motivate workers and their allies and help build awareness of the importance of worker organizing. It will assist agencies and policymakers in taking action to support worker organizing.