

Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh

MEETS WITH KEY LABOR LEADERS

On April 26, 2021, President Biden issued an Executive Order creating the White House Task Force on Worker Organizing and Empowerment, chaired by Vice President Harris and Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh. Secretary Walsh addressed affiliate members of the AFL-CIO on what he hopes the Task Force will achieve to increase union membership and density across the country and how the Biden Administration and unions can work together to achieve this goal.

Speaking not only as the leader of the Department of Labor, but also as

a member of LiUNA, Secretary Walsh spoke to the value of union membership, as it has resulted in increased wages for workers, expanded benefits, and improved workplace safety. However, the ability to organize has been hindered by current laws and regulations. Walsh spoke to the need for AFL-CIO affiliate members to work with the Administration and elected officials to identify these barriers and how federal agencies and departments can work to promote organizing across the country.

Strengthening the ability to organize and form a union has been a long-time policy objective of President Biden.



During his recent speech to the April 28 Joint Session of Congress, Biden called upon Members of Congress to pass the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act, H.R. 842 and S. 420. This legislation provides employees with the freedom to organize; penalizes employers who retaliate against employees who organize; and protects workers from being replaced while striking. In a previous statement on the bill, Biden commented, “The middle class built this country, and unions built the middle class... Unions lift up workers, both union and non-union. They are critical to strengthening our economic competitiveness.”

The NPMHU is currently working with the AFL-CIO, our affiliate brothers and sisters, and the Department of Labor on how to grow union membership and support the Task Force and the PRO Act.

