Summer 2008 Newsletter
Educational Institution Edition

NLRB Presentations

The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) staff are available to make classroom presentations on the historic importance of the National Labor Relations Act, the role and relevance of the NLRB today, and the range of workplace rights that the Act protects. Our presentations provide students with:

- Valuable insights on the role of the labor movement in American society as well as the process of administering an important federal law.

- Information about workplace rights that apply in students’ own employment, including the important right to gather together with coworkers to complain about working conditions, even without a union.

- Knowledge of labor laws and the NLRB process for human resources and/or business majors.

- Career opportunity information with the NLRB and in other labor relations fields.

To arrange a presentation contact:

Shelley Coppock
Outreach Coordinator
(510)-637-3257

or

Michelle Smith
Field Attorney
(510)-637-3291
National Labor Relations Act Among Key Accomplishments of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s New Deal

In the decades following passage of the National Labor Relations Act, also known as the Wagner Act:

- The union movement grew enormously, establishing Union representation and collective bargaining in the major sectors of American industry.
- A strong union presence changed the American social and economic landscape.
- During this period, wage rates grew significantly for working people, and Employer paid medical insurance and retirement plans became standard employee benefits.

National Labor Relations Act’s Importance Today

- The National Labor Relations Act remains, after over 75 years, the primary federal law that protects employee rights to seek union representation, that requires bargaining between unions and employers, and that regulates conduct during labor disputes.
- Unions, employees, and employers continue to make use of their rights.
- Even without a union, the Act protects workers’ rights to join together to talk about workplace issues, complain about work related problems with their employer or raise workplace demands.
- The Act gives workers the right to join, assist or organize a union, or to not do those things.
- Although union membership and strength has declined in recent decades, unions continue to organize employees, and continue to play a significant role in our society and in our political system.