



North Carolina General Assembly  
House of Representatives

REPRESENTATIVE RAY JEFFERS  
2ND DISTRICT

October 24, 2024

Wendell P. Weeks  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer  
Corning Inc.  
One Riverfront Plaza  
Corning, NY 14831

Dear Mr. Weeks,

We write as state legislators who represent Durham County in the North Carolina General Assembly and who have a strong interest in promoting positive economic development and constructive worker-management relationships in our community.

We appreciate Corning's investment in our area, and hopefully you appreciate the investments that the taxpayers of Durham County and North Carolina are providing for the company's expansion. In addition to our concern for our constituents' health and prosperity, as legislators we are also keenly interested in protecting their rights as citizens and workers.

Workers at the Corning facility in Durham recently contacted our offices to express obstacles they have faced in attempting to exercise their right to organize and be represented by a labor union. Specifically, they complained about meetings that Corning management has hosted to present misinformation about the United Steelworkers union. They also said that the management-maintained bulletin board posted de-authorization information to encourage workers who signed union authorization cards to withdraw their support.

It is our understanding that the United Steelworkers union currently represents thousands of Corning workers at other facilities across the country. We would encourage you to direct your leadership team in Durham to send a clear message that Corning is committed to hearing the voices of its employees and respecting their statutory right to organize without interference or intimidation. As required by law, workers should have the free and fair choice to join a union.

Given the significance of the workers' rights, we would urge Corning to consider adopting a neutrality agreement now that this unionization effort is underway. Adopting a neutrality agreement simply means that an employer refrains from engaging in pre-election



activities to interfere with workers' freedom to form a union. Commitment to neutrality would ensure that management is not viewed as opposing the election process or pressuring workers to vote against unionization, and it would signal to workers that support for the union would not affect their employment status.

We look forward to hearing from you and learning more about your views of the union organizing process now underway.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Ray Jeffers", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rep. B. Ray Jeffers

CC: Senator Mike Woodard

CC: Senator Natalie Murdock

CC: Rep. Zack Hawkins

CC: Rep. Marcia Morey

CC: Rep. Vernetta Alston