

## THE ASSEMBLY STATE OF NEW YORK ALBANY

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March 2, 2023

Roberta Reardon Commissioner, NYS Department of Labor NYS Department of Labor Building 12 W.A. Harriman Campus Albany, NY 12226

Letitia James Attorney General, New York State Office of the Attorney General The Capitol Albany, NY 12224-0341

Dear Commissioner Reardon and Attorney General James,

On Wednesday, March 1, 2023, RealEats located in Geneva, New York announced the closure of their meal service plant as well as their entire business. Employing about 160 people, this plant closure will have a significant impact on the local workforce and economy.

My main concern is the affected workers that had not been given any notice and now find themselves unemployed and seeking new work.

I'm writing to request that both the State Attorney General's office and the Department of Labor open an investigation into the sudden closure of RealEats and their apparent non-compliance with the New York State Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification (WARN) Act requiring that advance notice of ninety days be given prior to the closure of a plant.

After receiving millions of dollars in direct New York State funding and other subsidies, RealEats should not feel they are exempt from complying with our laws. The people they employed, their families and the community this plant closure affects are owed this respect.

I'd like to thank the Department of Labor and their rapid response team for working with my office. We appreciate their immediate attention to this closure and the assistance they are providing to help inform employees of benefits they are entitled to and opportunities to transition to other employment.

I ask your offices to open an investigation into this no notice closure. Your attention to this important matter is greatly appreciated, if I may provide further information, please do not hesitate to contact my office via email; gallahanj@nyassembly.gov or by phone; 315-781-2030.

Sincerely,

Jeff Gallahan

Member of Assembly

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131st District