

# **BOB BARKER**

Bob Barker Productions Inc.

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Beverly Hills, CA 90210

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Senator Andy Biggs  
President  
Arizona State Senate

Dear Senator Biggs,

I'm a lifelong Republican who believes that criminals should be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law—not shielded by it. The revised H.B. 2587, while sparing whistleblowers and undercover investigators from prosecution, would still interfere with authorities' ability to hold abusers on factory farms accountable. I hope you'll join me in protecting the criminal justice system by rejecting this bill.

With the amendments, farmed animals would be denied the protections of existing animal-cruelty statutes and instead be covered by a much weaker law, and egregious cases of animal abuse would never be considered felonies for first-time offenders. Fellow Republican Mary Matalin filmed this three-minute [video](#), which focuses on PETA's work with officials around the country to achieve landmark felony indictments and criminal convictions—results that this bill's passage could preclude. One such case, in which workers beat and sexually abused pigs on an Iowa farm, was even deemed a “wake-up call” for the agriculture industry by *Pork Magazine*. Although the amended bill might not prevent this evidence from reaching authorities, it would hinder their ability to prosecute offenders effectively and to end the abuse.

Instead of passing H.B. 2587, we should focus on toughening cruelty statutes so that Arizona law-enforcement officials, including Sheriff Joe Arpaio, who vehemently opposes this bill, can stop abusers in their tracks. Diverse figures ranging from meat-eaters such as Matalin and Arpaio to animal-welfare expert Temple Grandin and vegetarians like me are joined by millions of consumers who want to ensure that workers on farms are held to at least the minimum standards under the law. Please take a stand against abuse by opposing this bill.

Sincerely yours,



Bob Barker