

August 23, 2012

Mike Duke, President and CEO  
Walmart Stores, Inc.  
702 S.W. 8th Street  
Bentonville, AR 72716

Dear Mr. Duke:

After visiting WalmartCruelty.com and learning from my friends at Mercy For Animals that Walmart pork suppliers condemn pregnant pigs to lives of misery and deprivation inside tiny gestation crates, it is now clear that the hidden cost of Walmart's "always low prices" is blatant animal abuse.

**We implore you to help end the needless suffering of these animals by ending the sale of pork from producers who confine pigs in cages so small they can't even turn around for nearly their entire lives.**

While Walmart tells its customers they can "Save Money, Live Better," the pork sold in your stores comes from pigs whose lives couldn't possibly be any worse. As world-renowned animal behaviorist Dr. Jonathan Balcome puts it: "Gestation crates are unremitting hell on earth."

Inside tiny gestation crates barely larger than their own bodies, these intelligent and social animals never get to walk, run, root in the soil, see the sun, breathe fresh air, or do nearly anything that comes naturally to them. Driven mad from boredom and stress, these poor animals have nothing to do, day after day, hour after hour, but to bite the bars of their cages.

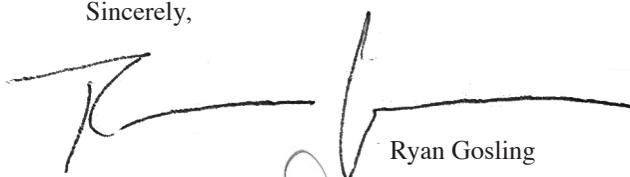
Sadly, there is not a single federal law to protect mother pigs or their piglets during their lives in factory farms, and most states exempt pigs from anti-cruelty laws, meaning Walmart's pork producers are able to routinely abuse millions of pigs in ways that would land them in jail if even one dog or cat were the victim instead.

While all of the abuses shown in the video at WalmartCruelty.com are unconscionable, perhaps the worst form of torture forced on these innocent animals is the use of gestation crates. As you should know, gestation crates are considered so cruel that leading animal welfare experts condemn them, nine US states and the entire European Union have banned them, and nearly all of Walmart's competitors, including Costco, Safeway, Kroger, and Kmart, have started demanding their pork suppliers do away with them.

It's time for Walmart to quit dragging its feet and help put an end to one of the cruelest factory farming practices. As the largest retailer in the world, Walmart has the power—and the ethical responsibility—to ensure that the pork sold in its stores is not the product of egregious animal abuse.

As a civilized society, it's our moral obligation to prevent cruelty to animals—including those used in food production. Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

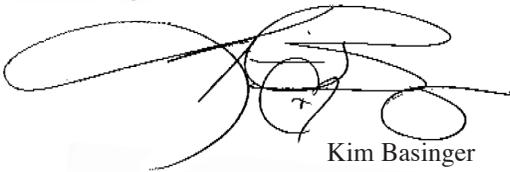
Sincerely,



Ryan Gosling



Zoey Deschanel



Kim Basinger



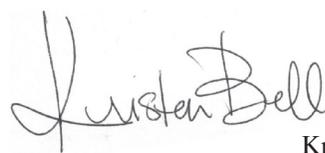
James Cromwell



Ed Begley, Jr.



Tom Morello



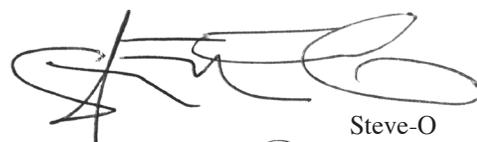
Kristen Bell



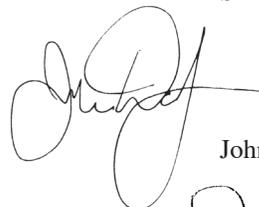
Emily Deschanel



David Boreanaz



Steve-O



John Francis Daley



Loretta Swit