Dear Mr. Miller,

For over forty years I’ve been an advocate for animals, who I consider to be some of the most vulnerable, exploited members of society. That’s why I am concerned by Albertsons’ failure to address appalling animal abuse in its supply chain: the sale of eggs from hens confined in cages.

By now you have surely heard that many of your competitors, including Costco, Target, Stop & Shop, Giant, and Trader Joes—as well as more than 100 other major retailers, restaurants, and foodservice companies—have committed to stop confining hens in tiny wire cages for their entire lives. These cramped, filthy cages are simply barbaric, and they have no place in a civilized society.

Albertsons claims to be a company with a conscience. But who in good conscience would condone by association an industry that locks an animal in a cage so small she can’t even spread her wings for her entire life? No one with morals would allow sensitive, intelligent animals to literally waste away in dire confinement, covered in their own feces. Take one look at an image of a hen in a cage, and you will understand why this practice must be stopped. Her beak seared off, her body half-featherless and red with infected sores, and her eyes filled with terror, she is a creature in constant agony.

Rarely are we given the opportunity to swiftly and dramatically lessen the suffering of millions of animals. This ethical opportunity is in front of you, Mr. Miller, and I urge you to take it. Failing to do so will leave you lagging behind the rest of the grocery industry. Given the choice between shopping at a company that cares about animal welfare and shopping at one that does not, I have no doubt many customers will choose to leave Albertsons in favor of one of your more ethical competitors.

Albertsons, I implore you to put in place a timeline for making all of the eggs sold in your stores cage-free.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Bob Barker