

BOB BARKER PRODUCTIONS, INC.

May 11, 2011

The Honorable Kenneth Edge, Chair
The Honorable Marshall Faircloth, Vice Chair
The Honorable Members of the Board of Commissioners
Cumberland County
117 Dick St.
Fayetteville, NC 28301

Dear Messrs. Edge and Faircloth, and Commissioners Evans, Keefe, King, and Melvin:

I have just learned from my friends at PETA of a very sad situation in Fayetteville. A bear named Ben is confined for "life," such as it is, in a small chain-link and cement pen at Jambbas Ranch. As you know, there was an ordinance that made this old-fashioned, unenlightened confinement illegal in Cumberland County, and rightly so. The video footage of Ben is heartbreaking to anyone who cares about animals. I have watched it, and it shows him as he paces back and forth, back and forth, as if he is stuck in a groove. He bites at the fence and pushes against it with his head in the clear hope that he can find a way to break out of it, and he shows other obvious signs of stress and frustration at being treated in this miserable and unnatural way.

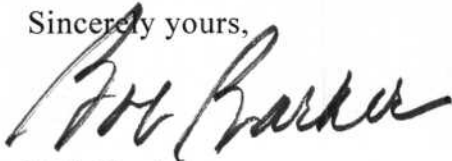
Thankfully, a wonderful sanctuary in California that I am familiar with – and have visited personally – has agreed to receive Ben and give him the care that he needs and deserves, without any charge whatsoever. I hope that you will intervene and see to it that this happens.

PETA has been trying since last August to get help for Ben the bear and for some other solitarily confined animals at Jambbas – including a raccoon, a fox, and an alligator who are also kept abysmally and who are prohibited by county ordinance from being held captive. Cumberland County Ordinance 3-12 was a straightforward and easily understood ordinance. It beats me how, rather than enforcing this humane provision, the board could listen to Jambbas' owner and amended the ordinance to allow such inhumane treatment of animals to continue. I believe that you must not have been given all the facts or seen this situation for yourselves, as that does not seem right at all.

Would you please act swiftly now to reverse the changes made to the county ordinance and see that Ben and the other unhappy, solitary animals at Jambbas go at the earliest possible time to a proper sanctuary where they can receive the professional care, veterinary attention, companionship of other animals, and basic respect that they should have?

Thank you for your time and attention. I can be reached through PETA's Michelle Cho at 323-644-7382, extension 25, or MichelleC@peta.org. I look forward to hearing your decision.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Barker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "B".

Bob Barker