

I N S P I R E
G R E A T N E S S



2150 North 107th, Suite 220
Seattle, WA 98133

March 23, 2002

Office of the Secretary
Federal Trade Commission, Room 159
600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington DC 20580

Dear Sirs:

I am writing in opposition to amending the Telemarketing Sales Rule to include a national “do-not call registry.” As the Executive Director of Special Olympics Washington, a not-for-profit charity that provides year-round physical fitness training and sports competition to over 7,000 children and adults with mental retardation, I can assure you that such a law would adversely affect our program by causing a serious decline in much needed revenue that we rely on from people who *choose* to give through a professional telemarketing service.

I find it appalling that you would even consider a law that includes “only” charities. I understand that the FTC cannot stop telephone calls that are made by politicians raising money, long-distance service providers or credit card companies. What sense does it make to have the FTC prohibit calls from charities providing services to people in need, but not from politicians raising money or the endless offering of credit cards? Charities use their money wisely in providing a service to society.

Non-profits depend on grassroots fund raising, and proposed amendments to the Telemarketing Sales Rule will hurt all charities that rely on telemarketing companies to help them spread awareness, as well as raise money for their important programs. At a time when government is seeking to do less, the public depends more and more on charities and non-profits to fill the gap and provide social services. The government should not be imposing restrictions that make funding of these projects prohibitive.

The proposed ruling, if made into law, would be inherently unfair--favoring one group over another and denying access to valuable revenue for people in need. Please do not consider this a viable amendment.

Respectfully,

Pam Griffiths
Executive Director