



*Special Olympics  
Vermont*



March 22, 2002

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

Dear Sir or Madam:

Special Olympics Vermont is a sports training and athletic competition program for children and adults with disabilities. Currently, 1,700 athletes are registered with our program and thousands of volunteers, family members and friends participate in SOVT events.

We are funded though the generosity of thousands of individuals and small businesses in Vermont who are solicited by professional fundraisers. We receive no federal funding, no funding from United Way and no financial support from our parent organization. We are responsible for raising every dollar that is needed to make our program available to the athletes who depend on SOW. We therefore oppose the proposal to amend the Telemarketing Sales Rule and request that non-profit organizations be exempt from this coverage.

Telemarketing does more than just raise money for Special Olympics. It helps with public education, it helps to recruit volunteers and it helps to recruit new athletes.

Thanks in part to the generous support we receive from small businesses and individuals through our telemarketing programs, Special Olympics is able to offer important programs at no charge to the athletes who participate. The proposed national "Do Not Call" registry could take an important communication vehicle away from our organization.

Special Olympics Vermont is opposing the propos  
organizations should be excluded from coverage. †

ment that all calls on behalf of nonprofit

Sincerely,

Dr. Robert Howman  
Executive Director