

March 26, 2002

Office of the Secretary
Federal Trade Commission
Room 159
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20580

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Dennis Alldridge, and I am the President of Special Olympics Wisconsin. Special Olympics Wisconsin is a non-profit organization that provides competition, sports and life training for adults and children with cognitive disabilities.

To be able to provide these services, we count on numerous small gifts from a large number of people. In fact, over 85% of the donations we receive are from individuals. Being an organization that operates with a small staff, we rely on the expertise of several telemarketing service bureaus to help us secure those donations. In addition, we have found that it is more cost effective to utilize these bureaus than to run the telemarketing programs ourselves.

It has come to my attention that the FTC is proposing an amendment to the Telemarketing Sales Rule that would create a national registry for a do-not-call list. Let me state on behalf of everyone involved with our organization that we are opposed to this proposal.

Donations we receive help us to fund competitions, trainings, and programs that not only help our athletes improve their skills, but also build their self-esteem and confidence. In turn, they develop the skills that help them get involved and assume leadership positions within the communities they live.

If this amendment to the rule goes into effect, it will have an adverse affect on our organization by eliminating a major source of support for our athletes, our ability to provide them with program services, as well as our ability to provide education to our donors. Our telemarketing programs not only provide us with financial support, they help us recruit new volunteers and athletes, and help us gain support for our games and competitions.

Again, I would like to state that we are opposed to the proposed amendment, and ask that all calls on behalf of nonprofit organizations be excluded from coverage.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis Alldridge". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dennis Alldridge
President
Special Olympics Wisconsin