

J.C. WATTS, JR.
4TH DISTRICT, OKLAHOMA

CHAIRMAN,

HOUSE REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE

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April 12, 2002

Timothy J. Muris
Chairman
Federal Trade Commission
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20580

Dear Chairman Muris:

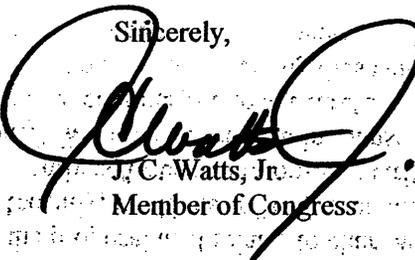
The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) recently extended the public comment period with regard to proposed amendments to the Telemarketing Sales Rules (TSR). This is an area of interest to me, and I am reviewing the numerous and comprehensive amendments to the TSR proposed by your agency. I appreciate the opportunity to comment.

In my initial review, of special concern to me is the proposal as it relates to charitable organizations and their fundraising initiatives. Recently, the House of Representatives passed legislation I sponsored that provides increased incentives for contributions to charitable organizations, including faith-based organizations. While there are certainly unscrupulous fundraisers who warrant closer monitoring, I would encourage you to act carefully in this regard so as not to diminish the work of those fundraisers who are key to helping these charitable and religious organizations meet their financial goals and provide their good works.

The teleservice industry provides jobs directly to thousands of Oklahomans, and indirectly to thousands more, and they are an important asset to our state's economy. In regulating this industry, it is important to make sure that the consumer is protected; at the same time, we need to recognize the positive economic impact, jobs and services provided by this industry.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment, and as you further consider these proposed amendments, I hope you will take these concerns into account.

Sincerely,



J.C. Watts, Jr.
Member of Congress

JCW:jrh