

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



March 25, 2002

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

Dear Secretary,

I am writing this letter to oppose the establishment of a national "do-not-call" registry, which will amend the Telemarketing Sales Rule, by the Federal Trade Commission. As a non-profit organization, Special Olympics Maryland, Inc. finds professional telemarketing a vital fundraiser to continue our support for more than 10,000 athletes with mental retardation or similar developmental disabilities.

Special Olympics Maryland, Inc. provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports, for persons eight years of age and older with mental retardation or similar developmental disabilities. This gives our athletes an opportunity to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community.

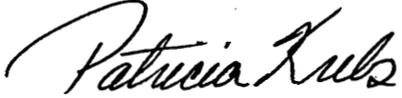
Professional telemarketing service bureaus provide tremendous support to our organization, allowing Special Olympics Maryland, Inc. to continue their mission to help bring Special Olympics athletes into the larger society where they are accepted and respected. Without small tokens from individuals recruited by telephone calls, we could not give the financial support to our athletes. Every penny counts in a non-profit organization.

If the amendment to the Telemarketing Sales Rule were to go into effect, Special Olympics Maryland, Inc., along with our athletes, will surely suffer. Please consider the damaging effects of this bill on our athlete's opportunities to participate in Special Olympics programs when you begin revisions on this proposal.

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Once again, Special Olympics Maryland, Inc. opposes the proposed amendment. Please do not put out the "flame of hope" for our athletes; exclude coverage of the amendment for all non-profit organizations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia Krebs".

Patricia Krebs, Ph.D.
President & CEO