

March 28, 2002

Office of the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission
Room 159 – 600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20580

To Whom It May Concern:

Since 1968, Special Olympics New Mexico has empowered people who were once shuttered away in institutions to emerge on the fields of sport as inspiring and heroic competitors. Involvement in sport has had a profound impact on thousands of people with mental retardation in our state; it has built their social confidence; it has improved their health and well being; it has given them the voice to become engaging and productive members of their families and of their communities.

To date, Special Olympics New Mexico provides 2,200 mentally challenged children and adults year-round sports training and competition in 15 different sports. Our delegations hail from 108 New Mexico communities from Alamogordo to the Zuni Reservation. Our organization is run by a combination of six full-time staff and **6,000 volunteers**, who unselfishly give of their time and resources so that our athletes can play the sports they love.

Almost 20% of Special Olympics New Mexico's annual revenue is generated from telemarketing. In a state with minimal corporate entities and little industry, relying heavily on its federal laboratories, military bases, and tourism industry... resources for non-profit organizations are scarce. Having to replace telemarketing revenue would be devastating.

The purpose of this letter is to express strong opposition to the proposal to amend the Telemarketing Sales Rule by including a national do-not-call registry that would include some calls but not all calls. Be assured that if this Rule goes into effect, it would be devastating to our ability to deliver program services to our Special Olympians and their families.

In closing, on behalf of the board of directors of Special Olympics New Mexico and our constituents, we ask that all calls on behalf of nonprofit organizations be excluded from coverage.

Sincerely,
Ms. Randy Mascorella
Executive Director