



Special Olympics

March 28, 2002

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

Dear Secretary:

On behalf of Special Olympics, Inc., I am writing to express concern about the Commission's proposed amendments to the telemarketing sales rule.

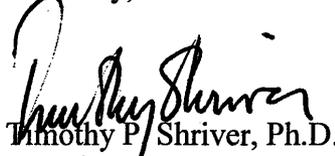
While Special Olympics, Inc., does not itself actively engage in fundraising via telemarketing, accredited Special Olympics Programs in the United States rely heavily on this medium to raise much needed funds to provide sports training and competition opportunities to Americans with mental retardation – Special Olympics Programs raise substantial amounts from thousands of donors across the country who want to support our efforts in this way.

The proposed amendments would negatively impact on the U.S. Programs' efforts to raise these much needed funds through telemarketing service bureaus. While we understand that the proposed amendment would not apply to nonprofits that conduct telemarketing themselves directly, we believe that if U.S. Special Olympics Programs had to conduct telemarketing directly, they would raise substantially lower amounts for the more than 500,000 Special Olympics athletes in the United States.

We fully support the Commission's efforts to protect the privacy rights of individuals. Special Olympics is a movement with high visibility and credibility among millions of donors throughout the United States, and neither we nor our Programs would do anything to jeopardize our relationships with our donors.

We respectfully request that the Commission give careful consideration before it adopts any rule that would adversely impact funding sources for credible charities.

Sincerely,



Timothy P. Shriver, Ph.D.
President & CEO

