

Kimberly Hanau

June 14, 2006

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing this letter because I am concerned about the proposed Business Opportunity Rule R511993. I believe that in its present form, it could prevent me from continuing as a **lia sophia** Jewelry Advisor. I understand that part of the FTC's responsibility is to protect the public from "unfair and deceptive acts or practices," yet some of the sections in the proposed rule will make it very difficult, if not impossible, for me to sell **lia sophia** products.

I have been a **lia sophia** Jewelry Advisor since March 2006. I became a Jewelry Advisor in my company because I felt the products were exceptional, and I needed to earn additional income to help support my family. My husband and I have two children; a son and a daughter. My daughter is from a previous marriage. Her father has not worked in over six years, and barely contributes to support her needs and education. We also live in Northern New Jersey which has a very high cost of living. My husband and I work very hard to make ends meet. My husband works a regular full time job, and goes to school at night to work towards completing his Bachelor's Degree. In addition to being a homemaker and mom, I work a regular full time job 40 hours per week in addition to my Direct Selling Business. Without my Direct Selling Business, we could not afford our mortgage, car payments, and provide for our children's needs. The future of my family is dependent on the stability of the direct selling industry.

One of the most confusing and burdensome sections of the proposed rule is the seven-day waiting period to enroll new advisors. The **lia sophia** sales kit costs \$99 (payable by "me"), but **doesn't** cost the new advisor a cent! People buy TVs, cars, and other items that cost much more and they do not have to wait seven days. This waiting period gives the impression that there might be something wrong with the company or the compensation plan. I also think this seven-day waiting period is unnecessary, because **lia sophia** already has a 90% buyback policy for all products including sales kits purchased by a salesperson within the last twelve months. Under this waiting period requirement, I will need to keep very detailed records when I first speak to someone about **lia sophia** and will then need to send in many reports to my company headquarters.

The proposed rule also calls for the release of **any** information regarding lawsuits involving misrepresentation, or unfair or deceptive practices. It does not matter if the company was found innocent. Today, anyone or any company can be sued for almost anything. It does not make sense to me that I would have to disclose these lawsuits unless **lia sophia** is found guilty. Otherwise, **lia sophia** and I are put at an unfair advantage even **lia sophia** has done **nothing** wrong.

Finally, the proposed rule requires the disclosure of a minimum of 10 prior purchasers nearest to the prospective purchaser. I am glad to provide references, but in this day of identity theft, I am very uncomfortable giving out the personal information of individuals (without their approval) to strangers. Also, giving away this information could damage the business relationship of the references who may be involved in other companies or businesses including those of competitors. In order to get the list of the 10 prior purchasers, I will need to send the address of the prospective purchaser to **lia sophia** headquarters and then wait for the list. I also think the following sentence required by the proposed rule will prevent many people from wanting to sign up as a salesperson - "If

you buy a business opportunity from the seller, your contact information can be disclosed in the future to other buyers.” People are very concerned about their privacy and identity theft. They will be reluctant to share their personal information with individuals they may have never met.

I appreciate the work that the FTC does to protect consumers, yet I believe this proposed new rule has many unintended consequences and there are less burdensome alternatives available to achieving your goals.

Thank you for your time in considering my comments.

Respectfully,

Kimberly Hanau  
**lia sophia** Jewelry Advisor