



May 11, 2006

Dear Colleague:

In 2003, Congress passed the Do-Not-Call Implementation Act which established the National Do Not Call Registry. Since then, the number of intrusive, unsolicited calls has dropped significantly. However, calls from or on behalf of political organizations are not covered by the Act, since they are not included in its definition of “telemarketing.” It is those calls which cause most of the consumer complaints the Federal Communications Commission receives today.

Therefore, I have introduced legislation, HR 5325, which allows citizens to apply the National Do Not Call Registry to political calls. Specifically, the bill would create a new and separate category for the National Do Not Call Registry that would enable a person to choose whether he wants to opt out of political calls in addition to the business-related calls already covered. Giving consumers the ability to choose what types of calls they would like to opt out of helps to avoid the constitutional issues that arise when limiting political speech. This legislation treats all political calls the same – whether from Members of Congress or so-called 527 organizations – and would enable anyone to elect not to receive these calls.

To co-sponsor this legislation, please contact me or Evan Goitein of my staff at 5-2511.

Sincerely,

JOHN T. DOOLITTLE
United States Representative