

The Truth About the **AFC Pledges** in Vermont

Targets Vermont employers, employees, and our citizens

No legal standing to adopt at the town level

Leads to harassment and threats

Unrelated to municipal business

Has no impact on international conflict

Misleading. Non-Binding. Divisive.

Why The **AFC Pledge** Disrupts Vermont Town Meetings

Disruption of the democratic process:

- Meetings have lasted **over five hours**, causing many voters to leave before a vote.
- A small remaining group then determines the outcome.
- Undermines the democratic process.

Legal authority:

- Under [*Skiff v. South Burlington*](#), municipalities are not required under state law to place non-binding advisory articles unrelated to municipal business on the ballot.
- Read: [*Rights to Reject Non binding Advisory Petitions*](#) - Vermont League of Cities and Towns
- Opinion: [*Yes, Towns Can Reject Petitions for Useless & Frivolous Town Meeting articles.*](#)

If a petition falls outside municipal authority, the legislative body may refuse to place it on the warning or treat it as non binding.



Watch: [Burlington City Council - September 13, 2021](#)

AFC explicitly targets Vermont employers and public institutions.

Including but not limited to:

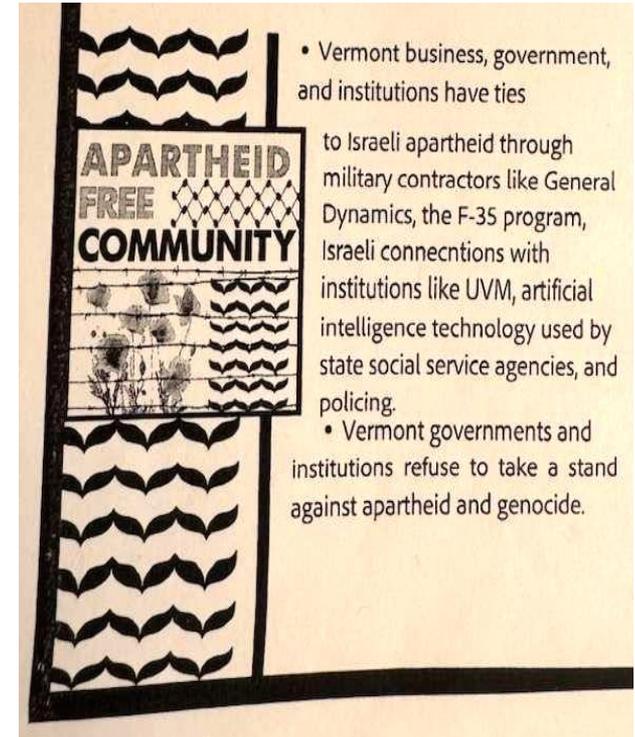
- University of Vermont (UVM)
- State agencies and social service programs
- Major employers and defense-related industries

AFC introduces foreign conflict into local government.

Photo below: Burlington City Council members wore Keffiyehs at the meeting scheduled on October 7, 2024, the first anniversary of the 10/7 massacres. Following meetings focused on anti-Israel resolutions. These symbolic actions during official meetings heightened tensions and contributed to a divisive environment within the community.



Ex: the image below is from an AFC flyer identifying VT employers



Many towns, including **Burlington**, have **rejected** this petition **multiple** times.

Community safety concerns:

- Opposition to the pledge has resulted in backlash, intimidation, and threats, preventing open and safe discussion.

Past attempts caused harassment and division:

- Elected officials were subjected to antisemitic abuse and accusations, undermining respectful civic participation.

Link to video: [*Burlington City Ward 5 NPA - 11/20/25 - Testimony from Ben Traverse City Council President*](#)

This apartheid petition is **misleading**.

- **The term “apartheid” does not legally apply to Israel.**
No major national government or international legal body has officially declared Israel an apartheid state in a binding legal ruling. This includes the USA, European Union and United Nations as an institution.
- Supporting Palestinian dignity is possible without endorsing this misleading campaign.
- Towns should insist on full facts, legal accuracy, and approaches that promote coexistence.