

# HIGH FALLS FOOD CO-OP

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## **HFFC BOYCOTT POLICY**

### **Policy**

HFFC understands our member-owners to be informed individuals with the agency to choose what products they wish to purchase. Therefore, HFFC will not automatically remove products from its shelves in support of a boycott at the request of member-owners. Instead, HFFC will provide educational information about current boycotts, subject to the criteria listed below. By empowering our member-owners with information to make appropriate choices for themselves we feel this approach will be more effective in promoting positive change.

### **Criteria**

In order for a boycott education action to be taken into consideration, all of the below criteria must be met:

- 1 The boycott in question must be part of a current organized (regional, national, international) effort with clear goals and specific, achievable results.
- 2 There are signatures representing at least 2% of active member-owners supporting a boycott education action by HFFC.
- 3 Educational material provided by the organized effort about the boycott would need to make a meaningful statement to the community at large about the relevant issues and be in line with HFFC's agreed-upon Ends and Policies.

### **Procedure**

- 1 A boycott education request form will be completed and submitted to the General Manager via email by an HFFC member-owner.
- 2 The General Manager will determine whether the three Boycott criteria are met and may consult with the HFFC Board if needed.
- 3 A decision will be shared with the submitting member-owner by the General Manager within thirty days of receiving the boycott action request form.

### **Boycott Action by the General Manager**

If a boycott action request is approved by the General Manager:

- 1 Boycott information will be published in the next HFFC newsletter.
- 2 A copy of the information will be placed prominently in the front end of the store.
- 3 The affected products will be tagged with a "boycott in progress" sign.
- 4 HFFC BOD will be alerted at the time of a successful boycott action request; and otherwise updated in monthly Board meetings about any pending, denied or active boycott requests.

### **Ending of Boycott Action**

All current boycott actions will be reviewed by the General Manager every thirty days and can be rescinded by the GM as soon as deemed appropriate. Reasons for a change in status might include but are not limited to:

- A change in the goal of the boycott
- New information that changes our understanding that the boycott would make a meaningful statement to the community at large about the relevant issues and be in line with HFFC's agreed-upon Ends and Policies
- The boycott call is rescinded
- At any time, owners can use the same process above to remove a boycott educational action implemented by the General Manager.
- If a boycott action is ended/rescinded, the General Manager will contact the original submitter of the boycott action with this update.

### **Denials**

- If a boycott action request is denied by the General Manager, then no further action will be taken on that request by HFFC.
- In the case of a boycott request being denied by the General Manager, member-owners can resubmit a new request after thirty days.