

1 **Sec. X.** SHORT TITLE

2 This act may be cited as the “Nickel Rounding for Cash Transactions Act.”

3 **Sec. X.** PURPOSE

4 The purpose of this act is to authorize the rounding of cash transactions to
5 the nearest five cents where one-cent coins are unavailable or impractical,
6 while ensuring legal clarity and consumer fairness.

7 **Sec. X.** 9 V.S.A. chapter 1 is amended to read:

8 CHAPTER 1. MONEY OF ACCOUNT

9 § 1. DOLLAR, CENT, AND MILL

10 The money of account in the State shall be the dollar, cent, and mill; and
11 accounts in public offices and proceedings in court shall be in conformity
12 herewith; but this section shall not affect an account, charge, or entry originally
13 made or a contract expressed in other money of account, but the same shall be
14 reduced to dollars and parts of a dollar in an action thereon.

15 § 2. NICKEL ROUNDING; AUTHORIZED

16 (a) Definitions. As used in this section:

17 (1) “Cash” means coins or paper currency of the United States offered in
18 physical form.

19 (2) “Cash transaction” means a sale of goods or services where payment
20 is made entirely or partially in cash.

1 (3) “Rounding” means adjusting the final total amount due, after taxes
2 and fees, to the nearest five-cent increment.

3 (b) Rounding authorization.

4 (1) A person or business engaged in a cash transaction may round the
5 final amount due to the nearest \$0.05 as follows:

6 (A) If the final digit of the amount due is \$0.01, \$0.02, \$0.06, or
7 \$0.07, rounded down to the nearest amount divisible by five.

8 (B) If the final digit of the amount due is \$0.03, \$0.04, \$0.08, or
9 \$0.09, rounded up to the nearest amount divisible by five.

10 (2) If a person or business rounds a cash transaction under this section,
11 any cash refund of the amount paid shall be issued to the purchaser in the exact
12 amount initially paid for the goods or service.

13 (c) Exclusions. This section shall not apply to:

14 (1) electronic and other noncash payments;

15 (2) payment of wages as that term is defined in 21 V.S.A. § 341;

16 (3) rebates or cash disbursements; and

17 (4) transactions governed by federal law that prohibits rounding.

18 (d) Application. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, rounding under
19 this section shall not constitute an unlawful price increase, surcharge, unfair or
20 deceptive act or practice in commerce, or discrimination.

1 (e) **Optional use.** This section shall not prohibit a customer from tendering
2 exact cash, including one-cent coins, unless the person or business has
3 provided notice that the person or business rounds transactions in accordance
4 with this section.

5 (f) **Required notice.** A person or business rounding transactions under this
6 section shall post a disclosure in clear and conspicuous terms at the point of
7 sale or on customer receipts.

8 (g) **Taxes.** All taxes shall be calculated and remitted based on the pre-
9 rounding amount.

10 **Sec. X.** EFFECTIVE DATE

11 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.