

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Environment to which was referred House Bill No. 723  
3 entitled “An act relating to posting of land” respectfully reports that it has  
4 considered the same and recommends that the bill be amended by striking out  
5 all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

6 Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 5201 is amended to read:

7 § 5201. NOTICES; POSTING

8 (a)(1) An owner, or a person having the exclusive right to take game upon  
9 land or the waters thereon, who desires to protect ~~his or her~~ the owner’s land or  
10 private pond or propagation farm over which ~~he or she~~ the owner has exclusive  
11 control may ~~maintain notices stating that~~ prohibit hunting, fishing, trapping, or  
12 taking of game or wild animals by either:

13 (A) maintaining notices stating that:

14 (i) the shooting, trapping, or taking of game or wild animals is  
15 prohibited or is by permission only;

16 ~~(B)(ii)~~ fishing or the taking of fish is prohibited or is by permission  
17 only; or

18 ~~(C)(iii)~~ fishing, hunting, trapping, or taking of game is prohibited or  
19 is by permission only; or

20 (B) maintaining paint markings on trees, posts, or other objects,  
21 provided that the marking shall:

1                    (i) consist of one painted line of purple paint that is a minimum of  
2                    eight inches in length and one inch wide; and

3                    (ii) be painted at between three and five feet above ground level.

4                    (2) “Permission only signs” authorized under this section shall contain  
5                    the owner’s name and a method by which to contact the property owner or a  
6                    person authorized to provide permission to hunt, fish, or trap on the property.

7                    ~~(b)(1) Notices prohibiting the taking of game~~ Notice signs erected under  
8                    subdivision (a)(1)(A) of this section shall be erected upon or near the  
9                    boundaries of lands to be affected with notices at each corner and not over 400  
10                    feet apart along the boundaries thereof.

11                    (2) Paint markings painted under subdivision (a)(1)(B) of this section  
12                    shall be painted upon or near the boundaries of lands to be affected with paint  
13                    markings at each corner and not over 100 feet apart along the boundaries  
14                    thereof.

15                    (3) Legible Notice signs or paint markings must shall be maintained at  
16                    all times ~~and shall be dated each year.~~ These Notice signs shall be of a  
17                    standard size and design as the Commissioner shall specify.

18                    (c) The owner or person posting the lands with notice signs or paint  
19                    markings shall record this posting annually in the town clerk’s office of the  
20                    town in which the land is located. The posting shall be valid and enforceable  
21                    for one year after the date the posting is recorded. The recording form shall be

1 furnished by the Commissioner and shall be filled out in triplicate, one copy to  
2 be retained by the town clerk, one copy to the Commissioner, and one copy to  
3 be retained by the person having the right to post the lands. The forms shall  
4 contain the information as to the approximate number of acres posted, location  
5 in town, date of posting, and signature of person so posting the lands. The  
6 town clerk shall file the record, and it shall be open to public inspection. The  
7 town clerk shall retain a fee of \$5.00 for this recording.

8 (d) Land posted and recorded as provided in ~~subsection (b)~~ of this section  
9 shall be enclosed land for the purposes herein. Accidental or unintentional  
10 deviations from the requirements of subdivisions (a) and (b) of this section  
11 shall still be deemed effective to prohibit or permit by permission only hunting,  
12 fishing, trapping, or taking of game if the notice signs or paint markings would  
13 lead a reasonable person to believe that hunting, fishing, trapping, or taking of  
14 game is prohibited on the land. Property owners with actual notice that their  
15 notice signs or paint markings deviate from the requirements of this section  
16 shall take reasonable steps to ensure their notice signs or paint markings  
17 comply with this section.

18 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

19 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.  
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1 (Committee vote: \_\_\_\_\_)

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\_\_\_\_\_

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Representative \_\_\_\_\_

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FOR THE COMMITTEE