

H.928 - Side by Side Comparison  
As Passed by House vs. Senate Proposal of Amendment

H. 928 as Passed by the House	H.928 Senate Proposal of amendment
<p>Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 4502 is amended to read:            § 4502. UNIFORM POINT SYSTEM; REVOCATION OF LICENSE            (a) A uniform point system that assigns points to those convicted of a violation of a provision of this part is established. The conviction report from the court shall be prima facie evidence of the points assessed. In addition to other penalties assessed for violation of fish and wildlife statutes, the Commissioner shall suspend licenses issued under this part that are held by a person who has accumulated 10 or more points in accordance with the provisions of subsection (c) of this section.</p> <p>(b) A person violating provisions of this part shall receive points for convictions in accordance with the following schedule (all sections are in this title of the Vermont Statutes Annotated):</p> <p>(1) Except for biological collection violations determined to be nonpoint violations under the rules of the Board, five points shall be assessed for any violation of statutes or rules adopted under this part except those listed in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection.</p> <p>(2) Ten points shall be assessed for:                * * *</p> <p>(G) § 4704. Use of machine guns; <u>and</u> autoloading rifles; <del>and gun suppressors</del></p> <p>(H) § 4705. Shooting from motor vehicles or aircraft, <u>excluding § 4705(a)</u>                * * *</p>	<p>Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 4502 is amended to read:            § 4502. UNIFORM POINT SYSTEM; REVOCATION OF LICENSE            (a) A uniform point system that assigns points to those convicted of a violation of a provision of this part is established. The conviction report from the court shall be prima facie evidence of the points assessed. In addition to other penalties assessed for violation of fish and wildlife statutes, the Commissioner shall suspend licenses issued under this part that are held by a person who has accumulated 10 or more points in accordance with the provisions of subsection (c) of this section.</p> <p>(b) A person violating provisions of this part shall receive points for convictions in accordance with the following schedule (all sections are in this title of the Vermont Statutes Annotated):</p> <p>(1) Except for biological collection violations determined to be nonpoint violations under the rules of the Board, five points shall be assessed for any violation of statutes or rules adopted under this part except those listed in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection.</p> <p>(2) Ten points shall be assessed for:                * * *</p> <p>(G) § 4704. Use of machine guns; <u>and</u> autoloading rifles; <del>and gun suppressors</del></p> <p>(H) § 4705. Shooting from motor vehicles or aircraft, <u>excluding § 4705(a)</u>                * * *</p>

(GG) Appendix § 44. Trapping, except for violations of Appendix § 44, sections 4.3, 4.4, 4.6, 4.9, 4.10, 4.11, 4.12, ~~4.14(e)~~ 4.18(b), and ~~4.14(e)~~ 4.18(e)

(HH) § 4827. Taking black bear doing damage

(II) Appendix § 37, ~~section 10~~ sections 4.1, 7.5, 8.5, 11.0, 11.1, 11.2, 11.3, 11.4, 11.5, 13.0, and 13.1. Deer management rule

\* \* \*

(OO) Appendix § 22a. Taking turkey doing damage

(PP) Appendix § 35. Taking moose doing damage

\* \* \*

(SS) ~~Appendix § 37, section 9.0. Feeding deer~~ Appendix § 7, section 5.3. Bear management rule

(TT) § 4716. Participating in a coyote-hunting competition

(UU) Appendix § 22, sections 6.2, 8.0, 8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, and 8.5. Turkey seasons

(VV) Appendix § 33, section 12. Moose management rule

(WW) Appendix § 5. Bow and arrow standards

(XX) § 4701. Use of gun, bow and arrow, and crossbow; legal day; dogs.

(3) Twenty points shall be assessed for:

\* \* \*

(GG) Appendix § 44. Trapping, except for violations of Appendix § 44, sections 4.3, 4.4, 4.6, 4.9, 4.10, 4.11, 4.12, ~~4.14(e)~~ 4.18(b), and ~~4.14(e)~~ 4.18(e)

(HH) § 4827. Taking black bear doing damage

(II) Appendix § 37, ~~section 10~~ sections 4.1, 7.5, 8.5, 11.0, 11.1, 11.2, 11.3, 11.4, 11.5, 13.0, and 13.1. Deer management rule

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(OO) Appendix § 22a. Taking turkey doing damage

(PP) Appendix § 35. Taking moose doing damage

\* \* \*

(SS) ~~Appendix § 37, section 9.0. Feeding deer~~ [Repealed.]

(TT) § 4716. Participating in a coyote-hunting competition

(UU) Appendix § 22, sections 6.2, 8.0, 8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, and 8.5. Turkey seasons

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(3) Twenty points shall be assessed for:

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(E) § 4702. Use of light (firearm ~~or~~, muzzleloader, air bow or rifle, bow, or crossbow involved)

\* \* \*

(O) Appendix § 7, sections ~~4.2, 5.3, 6.1, 6.2,~~ 6.3(b), 6.3(d), 6.3(e), 7.1, 7.2, ~~7.3, and 7.4,~~ and 8.2. ~~Bear, unauthorized taking~~ Bear management rule

(P) Appendix § 22, sections ~~4.2, 4.3, 6.4, and 6.5.~~ Turkey season, ~~excluding: requirements for youth turkey hunting season; and size of shot used or possessed~~ seasons

(Q) Appendix § 33, section 13.7. Moose management rule

(R) Appendix § 31 ~~(d), (e), and (f).~~ Seasons, bag limits for caribou, elk, and moose

(S) Appendix § 116. Atlantic salmon in the Connecticut River

(T) § 4521. Failure to stop

(U) Appendix § 37, sections ~~7.4, 8.4, 9.4, 9.5, 12.2, and 14.~~ Deer management rule, ~~excluding requirements for youth deer hunting weekend; requirements for novice season; limitations on feeding of deer; reporting big game; and section 11.0, ban of urine and other natural lures~~

\* \* \*

(EE) § 4705(a). Shooting from a motor vehicle or other motor-propelled craft.

\* \* \*

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Sec. 2. 10 V.S.A. § 4263 is amended to read:

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§ 4263. EXPIRATION; NONTRANSFERABILITY

Licenses shall not be transferable and shall be dated when issued. Annual licenses shall be valid from January 1 of the calendar year for which they are issued or from the day of purchase and issue in that year as certified by the issuing agent. All annual licenses shall expire on December 31 of the year for which they were issued or 365 days after the date on which they are issued, as determined by the Commissioner. Term licenses shall be valid only for the time period certified on the license form by the issuing agent. Any licenses may be sold prior to the date that they are to become effective.

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Sec. 3. 10 V.S.A. § 4255 is amended to read:  
§ 4255. LICENSE FEES

(a) Vermont residents may apply for licenses on forms provided by the Commissioner. Fees for each license shall be:

(1) Fishing license	\$28.00
(2) Hunting license	\$28.00
(3) Combination hunting and fishing license	\$47.00
(4) Big game licenses (all require a hunting license)	
(A) archery license	\$23.00
(B) muzzle loader license	\$23.00
(C) turkey license	\$23.00
(D) [Repealed.]	
(E) [Repealed.]	
(F) moose license	\$100.00
(G) bear tag	\$5.00
(H) additional deer archery tag	\$23.00
(5) Trapping license	\$23.00
(6) Hunting license for persons 17 years of age or under	\$8.00
(7) Trapping license for persons 17 years of age or under	\$10.00
(8) Fishing license for persons 15 through 17 years of age	\$8.00
(9) Super sport license	\$150.00
(10) Three-day fishing license	\$11.00
(11) Combination hunting and fishing license for persons 17 years of age or under	\$12.00
(12) Mentored hunting license	\$10.00

\* \* \*

(o) If the Board determines that it is necessary to issue or require additional big game tags or big game permits that are not otherwise identified in this section, the Department may issue such tags and permits and may assess a provisional fee for such tags

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(o) If the Board determines that it is necessary to issue or require additional big game tags or big game permits that are not otherwise identified in this section, the Department may issue such tags and permits and may assess a provisional fee for such tags and

and permits at an amount equal or similar to the fee for the same big game. The Department shall seek legislative approval of the provisional fee pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 603 within one year following the Department's assessment of the fee. The Department's failure to obtain legislative approval of the provisional fee shall void the provisional fee and the Department shall not assess a new provisional fee for the same big game tag or big game permit.

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(p) The Commissioner may assess the following fees for the use of Department of Fish and Wildlife lands and facilities. All fees or charges collected for the use of Department of Fish and Wildlife lands and facilities shall be deposited in the Fish and Wildlife Fund:

(1) Rental of the Edward F. Kehoe Education Center:

(A) Partnering organizations and municipalities:

(i) Education Center day use (per day for use of all facilities): \$300.00

(ii) Damage deposit (refundable if all requirements are met): \$150.00 per rental

(iii) Cabin rental (rate is for four persons, \$5.00 per additional person): \$60.00 per night

(B) School groups (K-12) day use: \$5.00 per student

(C) Private entity: Education Center day use (per day for use of all facilities): \$600.00

(D) Weddings: \$5,000.00, or \$4,000.00 if a certified wedding planner is used for the event

(2) Rental of Buck Lake Conservation Camp:

(A) Partnering organizations and municipalities:

(i) Education Center day use (per day/all facilities):  
\$300.00

(ii) Damage deposit (refundable if all requirements met):  
\$150.00 per rental

(B) Private entity:

(i) Education Center day use (per day/all facilities):  
\$600.00

(ii) Cabin rentals (rate is for four persons, \$5.00 per additional person): \$60.00 per night

(3) Controlled waterfowl hunt (Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area or Mud Creek Wildlife Management Area):  
\$10.00 per person

(4) Meeting rooms:

	<p>(A) Grand Isle Fish Culture Station: \$25.00 per day</p> <p>(B) Gordon Center Training Facility, overnight accommodations: \$25.00 per person per night</p> <p>(5) Special use permit: \$50.00 minimum-\$10,000.00 maximum</p> <p>(6) License: \$50.00 minimum-\$10,000.00 maximum</p>
<p>Sec. 4. 1999 Acts and Resolves No. 1, Sec. 87a is amended to read:  Sec. 87a. GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS  The following amounts are appropriated in fiscal year 1999 to the secretary of administration, for transfer and use by the referenced departments as indicated:  (A) To the Vermont housing and conservation board for Champion land acquisition and affordable housing \$5,500,000  * * *  (ii) With respect to lands commonly referred to as the Champion lands, the agency of natural resources, in a manner consistent with other statutory obligations and authority, shall:  * * *  <del>(II) Plan and Involve the Community. Involve Vermont citizens and municipalities in developing and updating every 10 years a long-term comprehensive plan for management of portions of the lands which are transferred to it. [Repealed.]</del></p>	<p>Sec. 4. 1999 Acts and Resolves No. 1, Sec. 87a is amended to read:  Sec. 87a. GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS  The following amounts are appropriated in fiscal year 1999 to the secretary of administration, for transfer and use by the referenced departments as indicated:  (A) To the Vermont housing and conservation board for Champion land acquisition and affordable housing \$5,500,000  * * *  (ii) With respect to lands commonly referred to as the Champion lands, the agency of natural resources, in a manner consistent with other statutory obligations and authority, shall:  * * *  (II) Plan and Involve the Community. Involve Vermont citizens and municipalities in when developing and updating every 10 years a the long-term comprehensive plan for management of portions of the lands which are transferred to it.</p>
<p>Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE  <u>This act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.</u></p>	<p>Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE  <u>This act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.</u></p>

<b>Points Subdivision Change Comparison with Statutory Text</b>	
<b>10 V.S.A. § 4502(b)(2) changes (10 point violations)</b>	
<p>(SS) Appendix § 37, section 9.0. Feeding deer  Appendix § 7, section 5.3. Bear management rule</p> <p>5.3 A person shall not harvest more than one black bear per calendar year, not to include animals taken pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 4827.</p>	<p>(SS) Appendix § 37, section 9.0. Feeding deer  [Repealed.]</p>
<b>10 V.S.A. § 4502(b)(3) changes (20 point violations)</b>	
<p>(O) Appendix § 7, sections <del>4.2, 5.3, 6.1, 6.2,</del> 6.3(b), 6.3(d), 6.3(e), 7.1, 7.2, <del>7.3,</del> and 7.4, and 8.2. Bear, unauthorized taking Bear management rule</p>	<p>(O) Appendix § 7, sections 4.0, 4.1, 4.2, 5.3, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3(b), 6.3(d), 6.3(e), 7.1, 7.2, <del>7.3,</del> and <del>7.4,</del> and 8.2. Bear, unauthorized taking management rule</p> <p><b>4.0 Seasons and Shooting Hours.</b></p> <p><b>4.1 Early and Late Season</b></p> <p>(a) Early Season: For Vermont Residents: September 1 through the day before the first day of the Regular Deer Season.  For Non-Vermont Residents without the use of dogs: September 1 through the day before the first day of the Regular Deer Season.  For Non-resident Bear Dog Permit Holders: The early black bear season shall be open to Non-Resident bear dog permit holders on September 15 and not before.</p> <p>(b) Late Season: For Vermont Residents and Nonresidents: The first day of the Regular Deer Season through the second Sunday of the Regular Deer Season.</p>

**4.2 Shooting hours:** One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

**5.3** A person shall not harvest more than one black bear per calendar year, not to include animals taken pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 4827.

**6.1 Licenses and Permits** Any person hunting, pursuing, harvesting, or in any manner involved in the taking of a black bear with the use of dogs must hold a valid Vermont Big Game Hunting License, use only Department Registered Dogs and have purchased a valid bear tag. In addition, the person hunting, pursuing, harvesting, or in any manner involved in the taking of a black bear with the use of dogs must hold a valid bear dog permit or accompany a bear dog permit holder. The permit shall be carried at all times by the permittee while hunting with dogs or taking black bear and exhibited to a game warden, landowner, or law enforcement officer upon demand.

**6.2 Legal Methods.**

(a) A person shall not take a black bear into his/her actual possession except by killing the bear by legal means or methods.

(b) A person taking black bear with the use of a bow and arrow or crossbow shall, upon demand of a game warden or other law enforcement personnel, show proof of having a prior archery license, or of having passed a bow hunter education course in Vermont, another state or a province of Canada approved by the Commissioner.

**6.3 Dogs and Packs.**

**4.2 Shooting hours:** One half hour before sunrise until one half hour after sunset.

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**6.3 Dogs and Packs.**

(b) No person shall take a black bear with the aid of any Unregistered Dog. No person shall have an Unregistered Dog in his or her possession while hunting, pursuing or taking a black bear.

(d) A person taking a black bear with the aid of dogs shall only take a black bear with a Pack of Dogs as defined in this rule. No person shall pursue, hunt, or take black bear by Relaying Dogs/Packs.

(e) Two or more permit holders may hunt together and combine Department Registered dog(s) to form a Pack of Dogs. The combined bear dog permit holders shall not take black bear with the aid of more than six dogs combined forming a single pack of dogs. Once hunting with dogs commences, dogs not on the hunt shall be restrained in the dog box or inside the vehicle. The combined bear dog permit holders shall not possess any Unregistered Dogs while hunting, pursuing or taking black bear.

**7.1** No person shall place bait to attract black bear for the purposes of allowing a bear dog to catch/strike the scent of a black bear. No person take bear by using bait or a baited area.

**7.2** A person shall not advertise, barter, exchange goods or services, or otherwise sell the use of a dog or dogs for the purpose of taking any black bear.

~~**7.3** While hunting with dogs, no person shall have in their possession an Unregistered Dog while possessing Department Registered dogs.~~

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<p><b>7.4</b> It shall be a violation for a Vermont resident to apply for a bear dog permit for the purpose of allowing a nonresident bear dog owner to hunt bear in Vermont with the aid of dogs.</p> <p><b>8.2</b> Upon request of a Game Warden, the person harvesting the bear and the permit holder shall show and return to the kill site with a Game Warden.</p>	<p><b>7.4</b> It shall be a violation for a Vermont resident to apply for a bear dog permit for the purpose of allowing a nonresident bear dog owner to hunt bear in Vermont with the aid of dogs.</p> <p><b>8.2</b> Upon request of a Game Warden, the person harvesting the bear and the permit holder shall show and return to the kill site with a Game Warden.</p>
<p>(P) Appendix § 22, sections 4.2, 4.3, 6.4, and 6.5.  <del>Turkey season, excluding: requirements for youth turkey hunting season; and size of shot used or possessed seasons</del></p> <p><b>4.2</b> Shooting hours: One-half hour before sunrise to twelve noon.</p> <p><b>4.3</b> Legal turkey: Only wild turkeys with beard(s).</p>	<p>(P) Appendix § 22, sections 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 5.1, 5.2, 5.4, 6.4, and 6.5. <del>Turkey season, excluding: requirements for youth turkey hunting season; and size of shot used or possessed seasons</del></p> <p><b>4.1</b> Dates: May 1, through May 31, inclusive.</p> <p><b>4.2</b> Shooting hours: One-half hour before sunrise to twelve noon.</p> <p><b>4.3</b> Legal turkey: Only wild turkeys with beard(s).</p> <p><b>4.4</b> Bag Limit: Two bearded wild turkeys per person per season.</p> <p><b>5.1</b> Dates and Open WMU's.</p> <p>(a) Bow and Arrow, and crossbow only:</p> <p>(i) Dates: From October 1 to Friday prior to the regular deer season, inclusive.</p> <p>(ii) Open WMUs: Open Statewide</p> <p>(b) Shotgun/Bow &amp; Arrow/Crossbow Season</p> <p>(i) Dates: Nine consecutive days beginning 21 days prior to the regular deer season, inclusive.</p> <p>(ii) Open WMUs: B, D, G, H, I, J, L, M, O, P, and Q and their respective subunits.</p>

<p><b>6.4</b> Rifles shall not be used or carried by any person while hunting turkeys. A person taking a turkey with a crossbow or bow and arrow may carry a handgun in accordance with 10 V.S.A. § 4252(b), however, that person may not use the handgun to take turkey.</p> <p><b>6.5</b> No person shall use dogs in the spring, nor electronic calling devices, bait, live decoys, or participate in cooperative drives during either season.</p>	<p>(c) Shotgun/Bow &amp; Arrow/Crossbow Season  (i) Dates: For 16 consecutive days beginning 21 days prior to the regular deer season, inclusive.  (ii) Open WMUs: subunits: WMUs F, K, and N and their respective subunits.</p> <p><b>5.2</b> Shooting hours: One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.</p> <p><b>5.4</b> Bag limit: One turkey per person.</p> <p><b>6.4</b> Rifles shall not be used or carried by any person while hunting turkeys. A person taking a turkey with a crossbow or bow and arrow may carry a handgun in accordance with 10 V.S.A. § 4252(b), however, that person may not use the handgun to take turkey.</p> <p><b>6.5</b> No person shall use dogs in the spring, nor electronic calling devices, bait, live decoys, or participate in cooperative drives during either season.</p>
<p><u>(U) Appendix § 37, sections 7.4, 8.4, 9.4, 9.5, 12.2, and 14. Deer management rule, excluding requirements for youth deer hunting weekend; requirements for novice season; limitations on feeding of deer; reporting big game; and section 11.0, ban of urine and other natural lures</u></p>	<p>(U) Appendix § 37, sections <b>5.1, 6.1, 6.2, 7.1, 7.2, 7.4, 8.1, 8.2, 8.4, 9.1, 9.2, 9.4, 9.5, 12.2, and 14.</b> Deer management rule, excluding requirements for youth deer hunting weekend; requirements for novice season; limitations on feeding of deer; reporting big game; and section 11.0, ban of urine and other natural lures</p> <p><b>5.1</b> A person shall not take more than four white-tailed deer in a calendar year, only one of which may be a legal buck, with the following exceptions.</p>

- (a) Youth and novice hunters shall be allowed to take two legal bucks, provided that one is taken during the youth or novice season, not to exceed the annual limit of four white-tailed deer.
- (b) A person shall be allowed to take one additional buck, not to exceed the annual limit of four white-tailed deer, provided they have:
- (1) Purchased a second buck tag,
  - (2) Previously taken and reported an antlerless deer in the current year, and
  - (3) Previously taken and reported an antlered buck in the current year that had at least one antler with 3 or more antler points.

## **6.0 Regular Season**

**6.1 Season Dates:** Pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 4084 for 16 consecutive days commencing 12 days prior to Thanksgiving Day.

### **6.2 Limit:**

- (a) One legal buck, not to exceed the annual limit as prescribed in Section 5.1 of this rule, and
- (b) One antlerless deer per antlerless deer permit, not to exceed the annual limit as prescribed in section 5.1 of this rule.

**7.1 Season Dates:** For four consecutive days, commencing on the Thursday 16 days prior to the opening day of the regular season.

**7.2 Limit:** A person may take one antlerless deer per antlerless deer permit, not to exceed the annual limit as prescribed in section 5.1 of this rule.

**7.4** A person shall not carry any firearms other than one single-barreled muzzleloading firearm as defined in 10 V.S.A. § 4001(33) while hunting deer during this season.

**8.4** A person shall not carry any firearms other than one single-barreled muzzleloading firearm as defined in 10 V.S.A. § 4001(33) while hunting deer during this season

**9.4** A person shall use only a bow and arrow or a crossbow to take deer during this season.

**7.4** A person shall not carry any firearms other than one single-barreled muzzleloading firearm as defined in 10 V.S.A. § 4001(33) while hunting deer during this season.

**8.1** Season Dates: For the fourteen consecutive calendar days commencing on the first Monday after the completion of the regular season.

**8.2** Limit:

(a) One legal buck, not to exceed the annual limit as prescribed in Section 5.1 of this rule, and

(b) One antlerless deer per antlerless deer permit, not to exceed the annual limit as prescribed in section 5.1 of this rule.

**8.4** A person shall not carry any firearms other than one single-barreled muzzleloading firearm as defined in 10 V.S.A. § 4001(33) while hunting deer during this season

**9.1** Season Dates: October 1 through December 15.

**9.2** Limit:

(a) One legal buck, not to exceed the annual limit as prescribed in Section 5.1 of this rule, and

(b) In Wildlife Management Units declared open by the Board to the taking of antlerless deer, a person may take one antlerless deer per archery antlerless deer tag, not to exceed the annual limit as prescribed in Section 5.1 of this rule.

**9.4** A person shall use only a bow and arrow or a crossbow to take deer during this season.

**9.5** The holder of an archery license or a super sport license, hunting with a bow and arrow or a crossbow, may possess a handgun while archery hunting, in accordance with 10 V.S.A. § 4252(b), provided that the license holder shall not take game by firearm while hunting.

**12.2** Upon request, the person harvesting a deer shall show and return to the kill site with a Game Warden.

**14.0 Baiting** 14.1 No person shall take deer by using bait.

Exempted from this prohibition are:

- (a) Incidental feeding of wildlife within active livestock operations;
- (b) Standing crops planted and left standing as food plots for wildlife;
- (c) Grain or other feed scattered or distributed solely as a result of normal agricultural, gardening, or soil stabilization, and logging practices;
- (d) Vegetation or food/seed naturally deposited.

**9.5** The holder of an archery license or a super sport license, hunting with a bow and arrow or a crossbow, may possess a handgun while archery hunting, in accordance with 10 V.S.A. § 4252(b), provided that the license holder shall not take game by firearm while hunting.

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