SENATORS AND OFFICERS POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE OF TRAVEL EXPENSES

Date/Time Stamp:
RECEIVED
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PUBLIC RECORDS

2019 NOV -4 AM 11:37

This disclosure, along with a copy of the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form and all attachments, MUST be provided to the **Office of Public Records, Room 232 of the Hart Building**, within **30 days** after the travel is completed.

In compliance with Rule 35.2(a) and (c), I Sen. Chris Van Hollen, make the following
(Name of Senator/Officer)
disclosures with respect to travel expenses that have been or will be reimbursed/paid for me.

Private Sponsor(s) (list all): The Aspen Institute, Inc. (Congressional Program)

Travel date(s): October 12-15, 2019

Destination(s): Aspen, Colorado

Name of accompanying family member (if any): Katherine Wilkens
Relationship to Member/Officer: ☒ Spouse ☐ Child

FILL IN THE APPROPRIATE LINES. IF THE COST OF LODGING **DID NOT INCREASE** DUE TO THE ACCOMPANYING SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT CHILD, ONLY INCLUDE LODGING COSTS IN EMPLOYEE EXPENSES. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

Expenses for Senator/Officer:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
☒ Good Faith Estimate ☐ Actual Amount	$1,025 for the senator	$525 for the senator	$210 for the senator	$340 for conference services including airport transfer, AV, breakfast, lunch, meeting space for the senator

Expenses for Accompanying Spouse or Dependent Child (if applicable)

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
☒ Good Faith Estimate ☐ Actual Amount	$1,025 for the senator's spouse	$0 for the senator's spouse	$210 for the senator's spouse	$340 for conference services including airport transfer, AV, breakfast, lunch, meeting space for the senator's spouse

Provide a description of all meetings and events attended. *See* Senate Rule 35.2(c)(6). (Attach additional pages if necessary.): See attached agenda

I HAVE MADE A DETERMINATION THAT THE TRAVEL DESCRIBED ABOVE WAS IN CONNECTION WITH MY DUTIES AS AN OFFICEHOLDER, AND DID NOT CREATE THE APPEARANCE THAT I WAS USING PUBLIC OFFICE FOR PRIVATE GAIN.

11/4/19
(Date)

(Signature of Senator/Officer)

(Revised 1/3/11)

Form RE-3

PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM

This form must be completed by any private entity offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to Senate Members, officers, or employees (Senate Rule 35, clause 2). Each sponsor of a fact-finding trip must sign the completed form. The trip sponsor(s) must provide a copy of the completed form to each invited Senate traveler, who will then forward it to the Ethics Committee with any other required materials. The trip sponsor(s) should **NOT** submit the form directly to the Ethics Committee. Please consult the accompanying instructions for more detailed definitions and other key information.

The Senate Member, officer, or employee **MUST** also provide a copy of this form, along with the appropriate travel authorization and reimbursement form, to the Office of Public Records (OPR), Room 232 of the Hart Building, within thirty (30) days after the travel is completed.

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1. Sponsor(s) of the trip (please list all sponsors): The Aspen Institute, Inc. (Congressional Program)

2. Description of the trip: Exploring energy-based economies that improve jobs and the climate and American prosperity

3. Dates of travel: October 12-15, 2019

4. Place of travel: Aspen, Colorado

5. Name and title of Senate invitees: Sen. Tom Carper and Martha Carper; Sen. Chris Van Hollen & Katherine Wilkens

6. I *certify* that the trip fits one of the following categories:

   ☒ (A) The sponsor(s) are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal **and** do not retain or employ registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal **and** no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

   – OR –

   ☐ (B) The sponsor or sponsors are not registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, but retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal and the trip meets the requirements of Senate Rule 35.2(a)(2)(A)(i) or (ii) *(see question 9)*.

7. ☒ I *certify* that the trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.

   – AND –

   ☒ I *certify* that the sponsor or sponsors will not accept funds or in-kind contributions earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.

8. I *certify* that:

   ☒ The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except for *de minimis* lobbyist involvement.

   – AND –

   ☒ The traveler will not be accompanied on the trip by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal except as provided for by Committee regulations relating to lobbyist accompaniment (*see question 9*).

9. **USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 6(B)**
I *certify* that if the sponsor or sponsors retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, one of the following scenarios applies:

☐ (A) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip.

OR

☐ (B) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip (*see questions 6 and 10*).

OR

☐ (C) The trip is being sponsored only by an organization or organizations designated under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

10. **USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 9(B)**
If the trip includes two overnight stays, please explain why the second night is practically required for Senate invitees to participate in the travel:

11. ☒ An itinerary for the trip is attached to this form. I *certify* that the attached itinerary is a detailed (hour-by-hour), complete, and final itinerary for the trip.

12. Briefly describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:

The Aspen Institute Congressional Program (AICP) is the sole sponsor of this conference and developed the agenda, organized the travel, planned the conference, and invited the participants. See attached appendix.

13. Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to that mission:

The Aspen Institute is a non-profit organization, and its broad mission is conducting nonpartisan forums and the exchange of ideas on issues impacting the U.S. and the world. AICP is a program of the Aspen Institute that provides nonpartisan educational conferences and educational forums for members of Congress and senior congressional staff members. See attached appendix

14. Briefly describe each sponsor's prior history of sponsoring congressional trips:

AICP has conducted international and domestic conferences for members of Congress for over 35 years. On occasion, other policy programs of The Aspen Institute, Inc., sponsor conferences that involve members of Congress.

15. Briefly describe the educational activities performed by each sponsor (other than sponsoring congressional trips):

The Aspen Institute holds numerous educational activities, including conferences, roundtables, briefings and other nonpartisan forums on critical issues facing the U.S. and the world. AICP, specifically, offers nonpartisan educational events for members of Congress and senior congressional staff, with each event offering a leading scholar on a key domestic or international issue.

16. Total Expenses for Each Participant:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses
☒ Good Faith estimate ☐ Actual Amounts	Total: $2,050 $1,025 for the senator $1,025 for the senator's spouse	Total: $525 $525 for the senator $0 for the senator's spouse	Total: $420 $210 for the senator $210 for the senator's spouse	Total: $680 $340 for conference services including airport transfer, AV, breakfast, lunch, meeting space for the senator. $340 for conference services including airport transfer, AV, breakfast, lunch, meeting space for the senator's spouse

17. State whether a) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation **or** b) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:

This event is arranged specifically with regard to congressional participation.

18. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip

The Aspen Institute owns a conference center in Aspen, Colorado that provides secure meeting facilities and required conference facilities.

19. Name and location of hotel or other lodging facility:

Aspen Meadows in Aspen, Colorado

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility:

This hotel offers the required private meeting space and conference technology. Security was also a key factor in selecting this hotel.

21. Describe how the daily expenses for lodging, meals, and other expenses provided to trip participants compares to the maximum per diem rates for official Federal Government travel:

Lodging is below the published per diem rate. Meals are at the published per diem rate.

22. Describe the type and class of transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first class transportation will be provided. If first-class fare is being provided, please explain why first-class travel is necessary:

Roundtrip coach class flight on a commercial airline carrier and coach ground transportation from/to Aspen airport

23. ☒ I represent that the travel expenses that will be paid for or reimbursed to Senate invitees do not include expenditures for recreational activities, alcohol, or entertainment (other than entertainment provided to all attendees as an integral part of the event, as permissible under Senate Rule 35).

24. List any entertainment that will be provided to; paid for, or reimbursed to Senate invitees and explain why the entertainment is an integral part of the event:

None

25. I hereby *certify* that the information contained herein is true, complete and correct. (For trips involving more than one sponsor, you *must* include a completed signature page for each additional sponsor):

Signature of Travel Sponsor: Dan Glickman

Name and Title: Dan Glickman, Vice President, The Aspen Institute, Inc.; Executive Director, Congressional Program

Name of Organization: The Aspen Institute, Inc. (Congressional Program)

Address: 2300 N St. NW Ste. 700 Washington, DC 20037

Telephone Number: 202-736-5859 (Lisa Jones)

Fax Number: NA

E-mail Address: lisa.jones@aspeninst.org

Aspen Institute Congressional Program – Aspen, Colorado Conference – October 12-15, 2019
Appendix

Question 12: Briefly describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting this trip:

The Aspen Institute has received general support and unrestricted funds from Henry Luce foundation, Democracy Fund foundation, and Rockefeller Brothers Fund foundation to support the Aspen Institute Congressional Program. These foundation funds were not earmarked for a specific trip.

Question 13: Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to that mission:

The Aspen, Colorado conference "Innovating a New Energy Economy: Benefits for Jobs, Climate, and American Prosperity" intends to examine federal policy issues related to energy-focused economies to increase jobs and address climate issues.

Question 16: Breakdown of transportation expenses

Sen. Chris Van Hollen: Air travel roundtrip: $1,025; ground transportation from/to airport: provided by Aspen Meadows Resort as part of conference services under "other expenses"

Katherine Wilkens: Air travel roundtrip: $1,025; ground transportation from/to airport: provided by Aspen Meadows Resort as part of conference services under "other expenses"

INNOVATING A NEW ENERGY ECONOMY: BENEFITS FOR JOBS, CLIMATE, AND AMERICAN PROSPERITY

The Aspen Institute Congressional Program
October 12-15, 2019
Aspen, Colorado

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

Participants arrive mid-morning to early afternoon

Sen. Chris Van Hollen, and his wife, Katherine Wilkens, depart Washington, DC at 12:45 pm on United flight #1908 and arrive in Aspen, Colorado at 4:35 pm on United flight #5500.

3:30 PM – 4:30 PM
Policy Scenario Discussion

COMPUTER MODELING OF POLICY SCENARIOS
Both nongovernmental organizations *Climate Interactive* and *Energy Innovation* offer interactive, computer-based ways to test the impact of various policies by modelling assumptions over time. Founders of both models will demonstrate their capability to provide insights into the impact of various strategies that may be employed.

***Hal Harvey**, CEO, Energy Innovation*
***Andrew Jones**, Co-Director, Climate Interactive*

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Pre-dinner Remarks

MEETING U.S. ENERGY GOALS OF AFFORDABILITY, RELIABILITY & THE ENVIRONMENT
Minnesota-based Xcel Energy, which operates in eight states and is Colorado's largest power supplier, has set out an ambitious corporate plan to produce 100% carbon-free electricity by 2050. Their plans include the country's largest multi-state wind plan with 12 new, low-cost wind farms in seven states; retiring two coal plants in Colorado and adding significant wind and solar capacity as well as large-scale battery storage; retiring 23 coal units over a span of 22 years, which currently represents 50% of its coal-fueled capacity, and a role for nuclear energy as well. Xcel concedes that reaching its goal may require technologies that are not yet commercially available.

***Ben Fowke**, Chairman of the Board, XCEL Energy*

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Working Dinner

Seating is arranged to expose participants to a diverse range of views and provide the opportunity for a meaningful exchange of ideas. Scholars and lawmakers are rotated daily. Discussion will focus on the opportunities and challenges in the transition to a clean energy economy.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13

7:30 AM – 8:45 AM *Breakfast is available*

9:00 AM – 10:45 AM
Roundtable Discussion

THE TRANSITION TO THE ELECTRIC CENTURY IS UNDERWAY
Even though U.S. oil production has doubled in the last 20 years, renewables continue to provide a growing share of America's energy supply. The pace of technological change, the economies of scale driving down the costs of renewables, and pressures to act in regard to climate change all contribute to an energy economy in transition from a reliance on fossil fuels to a low-carbon future.

***Hal Harvey**, CEO, Energy Innovation*

10:45 AM – 12:30 PM
Roundtable Discussion

FOSTERING TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATIONS TO MEET AMERICA'S ENERGY CHALLENGES: PROSPECTS FOR OIL, COAL, GAS, NUCLEAR, SOLAR, WIND & ENERGY EFFICIENCY
Our energy options depend on our technology: A diverse menu of technologies provides a rich menu of choices of energy for transportation, electricity, home heating, and industry. Technological development depends on a complex mixture of market demand, public policy, government and private research & development (R&D), and innovation ecosystems.

- How have today's energy technologies been impacted by public policy—including, e.g., directional drilling, fracking, nuclear power, solar, and wind?
- What are the best practices for federal energy R&D? Can federal policy incentivize privately funded research?
- Will technology provide a gateway for the fossil fuel industry's future through carbon sequestration?
- Is greater use of natural gas a long term trend to serve U.S. energy needs? If so, do policies promote this?
- Is there a need for government regulation to promote better energy efficiency, or are market factors sufficient?
- Is there a need for a strong federal building code to promote energy efficient buildings?
- Why is nuclear power on the decline in the U.S.?

***Arun Majumdar**, Director,*
Precourt Institute for Energy, Stanford University

12:30 PM – 1:15 PM
Working Lunch

Discussion continues between members of Congress and scholars regarding grid modernization and technological innovations and their implications for energy security and reliability.

1:15 PM – 3:00 PM
Roundtable Discussion

MEETING THE GROWING DEMAND FOR ELECTRICITY WITH SOUND, PRACTICAL, AFFORDABLE POLICIES

Energy tax preferences tend to favor the upper class who can afford initial capital outlays. Energy costs typically are a higher burden for lower income families who often have older homes and appliances, inefficient cars, and less access to renewable energy sources. Government and private industry alike play a vital role in the design of our future energy system, including regulating utility rates and the cost of electricity as technologies change and demand rises.

- To what extent are energy efficient technologies affordable and accessible to the public?
  Are financial incentives or policy mandates more effective for promoting innovation and low-carbon investments?
- To what degree are tax credits and financing mechanisms motivating factors for "clean" energy projects?
- Is variable surge pricing throughout the day, tied to demand-load pressures, an effective incentive for consumers to reduce their electrical consumption?
- How do technology prices differ in character from commodity prices? What are the implications of recent price trends?
  In a low carbon future, how can reliable baseload power be insured?

***Jason Bordoff**, Director, Center on Global Energy Policy, Columbia University*
***Jay Faison**, Founder, ClearPath*

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Policy Scenario Discussion

COMPUTER MODELING OF POLICY SCENARIOS

Both nongovernmental organizations *Climate Interactive* and *Energy Innovation* offer interactive, computer-based ways to test the impact of various policies by modelling assumptions over time. Founders of both models will demonstrate their capability to provide insights into the impact of various strategies that may be employed.

***Hal Harvey**, CEO, Energy Innovation*
***Andrew Jones**, Co-Director, Climate Interactive*

8:00 PM – 9:30 PM
Working Dinner

Seating is arranged to expose participants to a diverse range of views and provide the opportunity for a meaningful exchange of ideas. Scholars and lawmakers are rotated daily. Discussion will focus on the opportunities, challenges, and potential solutions regarding electricity in America's energy future.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14

7:30 AM – 8:45 AM *Breakfast is available*

9:00 AM – 10:45 AM
Roundtable Discussion

THE CHANGING ROLE OF CARS IN AMERICAN LIFE & IMPLICATIONS FOR ENERGY NEEDS

In 2017, CO_2 emissions from the transportation sector surpassed the power sector for the first time in over 40 years. With four million hybrids and over half a million plug-in electric cars on American roads today, changes in vehicle fleets and transportation needs are already underway. The changing roles of cars ahead—with widespread ride-sharing and potential autonomous vehicles displacing traditional drivers—could have dramatic impacts on historical driving patterns and energy use.

- As the average age of vehicles on the road continues to increase, how are companies and government policies adapting?
- How crucial is development of better battery storage power to a successful Electric Vehicle (EV) evolution, and does this have promise?
- Is a charging infrastructure for electric cars a public or private responsibility, and what are the implications on the power sector?
- Do road building standards need to be changed for automated vehicles?
- Will the administration's plan to rollback fuel efficiency standards, now at an average of 37 mpg compared to the previous goal of 54 mpg, divide the American auto market with 13 different states having different standards?
- What are the implications of the effort by the federal government to abolish California's stricter auto emissions standards?

***Rohan Patel**, Director, Policy and Business Development, Tesla Motors*
***Bob Holycross**, Global Director, Sustainability, Homologation & Compliance, Ford Motor Company*

10:45 AM – 12:30 PM
Roundtable Discussion

INFRASTRUCTURE FOR AMERICA'S CHANGING TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

Infrastructure investment is a perennial topic of bipartisan interest in policy debates. The American Society of Civil Engineers rates the domestic energy infrastructure a "D+" because of its age, bottlenecks and vulnerability to disruption. Analysts are forecasting the "three revolutions (3Rs)" ahead in transportation: electrification, automation, and sharing. How does the U.S. most efficiently design the infrastructure needs to meet these upcoming revolutionary changes?

- Are government incentives for vehicle electrification necessary?
- Will the gas tax become an outdated method of infrastructure financing?
- Is government research to improve battery storage necessary?
- What role does government have in car-sharing?
- How can a widespread national charging infrastructure materialize?
- Will parking garages become obsolete?
  What will the impact of the 3Rs be on the insurance industry, and how will they impact consumers?

***Beth Osborne**, Director, Transportation for America*

12:30 PM – 1:15 PM
Working Lunch

Discussion continues between members of Congress and scholars regarding the challenges of transportation in America's energy future.

1:15 PM – 3:00 PM
Roundtable Discussion

IMPLICATIONS FOR AMERICAN JOBS

Employment data indicates that slightly more than 50% of Americans who work in the energy sector (3.5 million) contribute to a low emissions economy. On an economy-wide scale, jobs in transportation, industry and manufacturing, infrastructure, and energy will all be influenced by the new energy economy.

- How can the renewable energy industry learn from the boom and bust oil and gas economy to promote long-term job growth throughout the transition and beyond?
- What are the opportunities in adapting infrastructure and transitioning to a clean energy economy for American jobs and prosperity?
- Do displaced workers from conventional fuels jobs need federal support to learn new workforce skills?

***Kevin Knobloch**, President, New York OceanGrid, former Chief of Staff for Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz*

6:30 PM – 7:30 PM
Pre-dinner Remarks

ENERGY LESSONS FROM THE STATES
States are increasingly taking actions toward a low-carbon future, whether for environmental, employment, resilience, community impact, or other reasons. States are looking to manage their own energy futures, considering clean energy goals, and evaluating the fate of existing infrastructure.

For example, Wyoming—while a major producer of coal, natural gas, and crude oil—is the site of the country's largest planned wind farm, a $5 billion project of up to 1,000 turbines (enough electricity for a million homes). Colorado has a goal of producing 100 percent of its power from renewable sources by 2040. Western states are cooperating on developing a system for fast charging EVs. The governors of Wyoming and Colorado will elaborate on these plans and more which may have applicable lessons for federal lawmakers.

***Mark Gordon**, Governor of Wyoming*
***Jared Polis**, Governor of Colorado*

7:30 PM – 9:00 PM
Working Dinner

Seating is arranged to expose participants to a diverse range of views and provide the opportunity for a meaningful exchange of ideas. Scholars and lawmakers are rotated daily. Discussion will focus on the opportunities, challenges, and potential solutions regarding transportation in America's energy future.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15

All Participants Depart
Sen. Chris Van Hollen and Katherine Wilkens depart Aspen, Colorado at 7:35 am on United 5961 and arrive in Washington, DC at 2:57 pm on United 712.

THE ASPEN INSTITUTE

Dan Glickman

Executive Director

Congressional Program

2300 N St., NW

Suite 700

Washington, DC 20037

PH 202.736.5825

FX 202.785-2737

www.aspeninstitute.org

June 26, 2019

The Honorable Chris Van Hollen
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chris:

I would like to invite you and Katherine to participate in a congressional conference on ***Innovating a New Energy Economy: Benefits for Jobs, Climate, and American Prosperity,*** October 12-15, 2019, **in Aspen, Colorado** during the October recess. We have limited space and must hear from you proactively as soon as possible if you wish to participate.

Technological advances have led to an expansion of American capacity to produce high quantities of oil and gas as well as further the use of renewables and increased energy efficiencies, making the U.S. more energy independent. At the same time, major changes in the auto industry are underway with the introduction of electric and autonomous vehicles which are sure to significantly impact energy consumption in the future. These energy policy factors, which will have huge implications for the economy, climate and our prosperity, will be analyzed in a comprehensive three-day focus, drawing policy examples from regional states and Midwest utilities. The agenda outline is attached.

We will have a mix of prominent American scholars and energy practitioners to assist our discussions. Attendance is by invitation only, with no outside observers, lobbyists, or congressional staff. Funding is provided solely by grants from foundations—no government, individual, corporate or special interest funds are accepted.

Under guidelines established by the Senate Select Ethics Committee, we will provide you with a signed Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form affirming that no lobbyists fund this activity, that the Aspen Institute does not hire or retain lobbyists, and that no lobbyists will be present. Our purpose is education, not advocacy.

This program is designed for Members of both the Senate and the House. Please note that because the House has adopted rules that preclude registered lobbyists from attending our events, if your accompanying spouse of family member is a registered lobbyist, the rules would bar their participation.

Departure will be on Saturday, October 12th and we will return on Tuesday, October 15th. Should you accept the invitation, it is required that you participate through the duration of the conference.

Travel expenses, including airfare on a carrier with whom we have negotiated a fare, lodging and meals will be paid by the Aspen Institute Congressional Program. Under the ethics rules, no expenses are covered for entertainment or recreation. Congressional participants are limited to only one accompanying family member.

The Aspen Institute, an independent, nonprofit organization founded in 1950, provides a nonpartisan, neutral forum for leaders to discuss critical issues. The Institute's Congressional Program is designed to promote leadership on selected public policy issues in the Congress by bringing legislators together with internationally-recognized scholars and analysts in high-level discussion. Since the program's inception, over 460 Members of Congress have participated in the 139 conferences we have conducted.

Enclosed is a fact sheet on the program. In addition to answering any questions you may have, it has proven to be useful in responding to public and press inquiries.

Additionally, we hold breakfast meetings in the Capitol throughout the year to keep Members of Congress up-to-date between our annual conferences. We hope you will be able to participate in the extended educational offerings of our breakfast series.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 202-736-5825. I hope you will join us for this important conference.

Sincerely,

Dan

Dan Glickman

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