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1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to nursing education programs;
3	amending s. 464.003, F.S.; revising definitions of the
4	terms "clinical training" and "practice of practical
5	nursing"; conforming a cross-reference; amending s.
6	464.013, F.S.; exempting nurses who are certified by
7	certain accredited programs from continuing education
8	requirements; amending s. 464.019, F.S.; removing the
9	limitation on the percentage of clinical training that
10	may consist of clinical simulation; deleting obsolete
11	requirements; authorizing the Board of Nursing to
12	adopt certain rules relating to documenting the
13	accreditation of nursing education programs; deleting
14	the requirement that the Office of Program Policy
15	Analysis and Government Accountability participate in
16	an implementation study; requiring nursing education
17	programs that prepare students for the practice of
18	professional nursing to be accredited; providing an
19	exception; amending s. 456.014, F.S.; conforming a
20	cross-reference; providing an effective date.
21	
22	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
23	
24	Section 1. Subsections (10), (19), and (23) of section
25	464.003, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
26	464.003 DefinitionsAs used in this part, the term:
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(10) "Clinical training" means direct nursing care
experiences with patients or clients, or clinical simulation of
<u>such experiences</u>, which offer the student the opportunity to
integrate, apply, and refine specific skills and abilities based
on theoretical concepts and scientific principles.

(19) "Practice of practical nursing" means the performance 32 33 of selected acts, including the administration of treatments and 34 medications, in the care of the ill, injured, or infirm; and the promotion of wellness, maintenance of health, and prevention of 35 illness of others under the direction of a registered nurse, a 36 37 licensed physician, a licensed osteopathic physician, a licensed podiatric physician, or a licensed dentist; and the teaching of 38 39 general principles of health and wellness to the public and to 40 students other than nursing students. A practical nurse is 41 responsible and accountable for making decisions that are based 42 upon the individual's educational preparation and experience in 43 nursing.

44 (23) "Required passage rate" means the graduate passage45 rate required for an approved program pursuant to s.

46 464.019(5)(a) 464.019(6)(a)1.

49

47 Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 464.013, Florida48 Statutes, is amended to read:

464.013 Renewal of license or certificate.-

50 (3) The board shall by rule prescribe <u>up to 30 hours of</u> 51 continuing education not to exceed 30 hours biennially as a 52 condition for renewal of a license or certificate. <u>A nurse who</u> Page 2 of 20

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53 is certified by a health care specialty program that is 54 accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies is exempt from the continuing education requirements. The criteria 55 56 for programs shall be approved by the board. 57 Section 3. Section 464.019, Florida Statutes, is amended 58 to read: 59 464.019 Approval of nursing education programs.-60 PROGRAM APPLICATION APPLICATIONS. - An educational (1)61 institution that wishes to conduct a program in this state for the prelicensure education of professional or practical nurses 62 must submit to the department a program application and review 63 fee of \$1,000 for each prelicensure nursing education program to 64 be offered at the institution's main campus, branch campus, or 65 66 other instructional site. The Each program application must 67 include the legal name of the educational institution, the legal name of the nursing education program, and, if such program is 68 69 accredited by an accrediting agency other than an accrediting 70 agency described in s. 464.003(1), the name of the accrediting 71 agency. The application must also document that: 72 (a)1. For a professional nursing education program, the 73 program director and at least 50 percent of the program's 74 faculty members are registered nurses who have a master's or 75 higher degree in nursing or a bachelor's degree in nursing and a 76 master's or higher degree in a field related to nursing. 77

For a practical nursing education program, the program
 director and at least 50 percent of the program's faculty
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79 members are registered nurses who have a bachelor's or higher 80 degree in nursing. 81 The educational degree requirements of this paragraph may be 82 83 documented by an official transcript or by a written statement 84 from the educational institution verifying that the institution 85 conferred the degree. 86 (b) The program's nursing major curriculum consists of at 87 least: Fifty percent clinical training for a practical nursing 88 1. 89 education program, an associate degree professional nursing education program, or a professional diploma nursing education 90 91 program. 92 Forty percent clinical training for a bachelor's degree 2. 93 professional nursing education program. 94 (c) No more than 25 percent of the program's clinical training consists of clinical simulation. 95 96 (c) (d) The program has signed agreements with each agency, 97 facility, and organization included in the curriculum plan as clinical training sites and community-based clinical experience 98 99 sites. 100 (d) (e) The program has written policies for faculty which include provisions for direct or indirect supervision by program 101 102 faculty or clinical preceptors for students in clinical training 103 consistent with the following standards: 104 1. The number of program faculty members equals at least Page 4 of 20

124

105 one faculty member directly supervising every 12 students unless 106 the written agreement between the program and the agency, 107 facility, or organization providing clinical training sites 108 allows more students, not to exceed 18 students, to be directly 109 supervised by one program faculty member.

110 2. For a hospital setting, indirect supervision may occur 111 only if there is direct supervision by an assigned clinical 112 preceptor, a supervising program faculty member is available by 113 telephone, and such arrangement is approved by the clinical 114 facility.

3. For community-based clinical experiences that involve student participation in invasive or complex nursing activities, students must be directly supervised by a program faculty member or clinical preceptor and such arrangement must be approved by the community-based clinical facility.

4. For community-based clinical experiences not subject to
subparagraph 3., indirect supervision may occur only when a
supervising program faculty member is available to the student
by telephone.

A program's policies established under this paragraph must require <u>that</u> a clinical preceptor <u>who is</u>, if supervising students in a professional nursing education program, to be a registered nurse or, if supervising students in a practical nursing education program, to be a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse.

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131 (e) (f) The professional or practical nursing curriculum 132 plan documents clinical experience and theoretical instruction 133 in medical, surgical, obstetric, pediatric, and geriatric 134 nursing; . A professional nursing curriculum plan shall also 135 document clinical experience and theoretical instruction in 136 psychiatric nursing; and. Each curriculum plan must document 137 clinical training experience in appropriate settings that 138 include, but are not limited to, acute care, long-term care, and 139 community settings.

(f) (g) The professional or practical nursing education 140 program provides theoretical instruction and clinical 141 application in personal, family, and community health concepts; 142 143 nutrition; human growth and development throughout the life 144 span; body structure and function; interpersonal relationship 145 skills; mental health concepts; pharmacology and administration of medications; and legal aspects of practice. A professional 146 nursing education program must shall also provide theoretical 147 148 instruction and clinical application in interpersonal 149 relationships and leadership skills; professional role and 150 function; and health teaching and counseling skills.

151

(2) PROGRAM APPROVAL.-

(a) Upon receipt of a program application and review fee,
the department shall examine the application to determine <u>if</u>
whether it is complete. If <u>the</u> a program application is not
complete, the department shall notify the educational
institution in writing of any errors or omissions within 30 days
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157 after the department's receipt of the application. A program application is deemed complete upon the department's receipt of: 158 159 The initial application, if the department does not 1. 160 notify the educational institution of any errors or omissions 161 within the 30-day period; or 162 A revised application that corrects each error and 2. 163 omission of which the department notifies the educational 164 institution within the 30-day period. 165 Within 90 days after the department's receipt of a (b) complete program application, the board shall: 166 Approve the application if it documents compliance with 167 1. 168 subsection (1) $\frac{paragraphs}{(1)(a)-(g)}$; or 169 Provide the educational institution with a notice of 2. 170 intent to deny the application if it does not document 171 compliance with subsection (1) $\frac{1}{a^{-(g)}}$. The notice 172 must specify set forth written reasons for the board's denial of 173 the application. The board may not deny a program application 174 because of an educational institution's failure to correct an 175 any error or omission that of which the department failed to 176 provide notice of to does not notify the institution within the 30-day notice period under paragraph (a). The educational 177 178 institution may request a hearing on the notice of intent to 179 deny the program application pursuant to chapter 120. 180 A program application is deemed approved if the board (C) 181 does not act within the 90-day review period provided under 182 paragraph (b). Page 7 of 20

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183 (d) Upon the board's approval of a program application, 184 the program becomes an approved program. 185 (3) STATUS OF CERTAIN PROGRAMS. - A professional or 186 practical nursing education program becomes an approved program 187 if, as of June 30, 2009, the program: 188 (a) Has full or provisional approval from the board 189 except as provided in paragraph (b), is on probationary status. 190 (b) Is on probationary status because the program did not 191 meet the board's requirement for graduate passage rates. Such 192 program shall remain on probationary status until it achieves a 193 graduate passage rate for calendar year 2009 or 2010 that equals 194 or exceeds the required passage rate for the respective calendar 195 year and must disclose its probationary status in writing to the 196 program's students and applicants. If the program does not 197 achieve the required passage rate, the board shall terminate the 198 program pursuant to chapter 120. 199 (3) (4) ANNUAL REPORT.-By November 1 of each year, each 200 approved program that is not accredited shall submit to the 201 board an annual report comprised of an affidavit certifying 202 continued compliance with subsection (1) $\frac{1}{a^2-a^2}$, 203 a summary description of the program's compliance with 204 subsection (1) $\frac{1}{2} (a) - (g)$, and documentation for the 205 previous academic year that, to the extent applicable, describes

206 sets forth:

(a) The number of student applications received, qualified
 applicants, applicants accepted, accepted applicants who enroll
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209 in the program, students enrolled in the program, and program 210 graduates.

(b) The program's retention rates for students trackedfrom program entry to graduation.

(c) The program's accreditation status, including identification of the accrediting agency if <u>the program is</u> <u>accredited</u> such agency is not an accrediting agency described in s. 464.003(1).

217 <u>(4) (5)</u> INTERNET WEBSITE. By October 1, 2010, The board 218 shall publish the following information on its Internet website:

(a) A list of each accredited program conducted in the state and the program's graduate passage rates for the most recent 2 calendar years, which the department shall determine through the following sources:

1. For a program's accreditation status, the specialized accrediting agencies that are nationally recognized by the United States Secretary of Education to accredit nursing education programs.

227 2. For a program's graduate passage rates, the contract
228 testing service of the National Council of State Boards of
229 Nursing.

(b) The following data for each approved program, which
 <u>includes</u> shall include, to the extent applicable:

2321. All documentation provided by the program in its233program application if submitted on or after July 1, 2009.

234 2. The summary description of the program's compliance Page 9 of 20

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235 submitted under subsection (3) (4).

236 The program's accreditation status, including 3. 237 identification of the accrediting agency if the program is 238 accredited such agency is not an accrediting agency described in 239 s. 464.003(1).

240

The program's probationary status. 4.

241 5. The program's graduate passage rates for the most 242 recent 2 calendar years.

243 Each program's retention rates for students tracked 6. from program entry to graduation. 244

The average passage rates for United States educated 245 (C) first-time test takers on the National Council of State Boards 246 247 of Nursing Licensing Examination for the most recent 2 calendar 248 years, as calculated by the contract testing service of the 249 National Council of State Boards of Nursing. The average passage 250 rates shall be published separately for each type of comparable 251 degree program listed in subparagraph (5) (a) 1. sub-subparagraphs 252 (6) (a) 1.a.-d.

253

254 The information required to be published under this subsection 255 shall be made available in a manner that allows interactive 256 searches and comparisons of individual programs selected by the 257 website user. The board shall update the Internet website at 258 least quarterly with the available information.

259

(5) (6) ACCOUNTABILITY.-

260

(a)1. An approved program must achieve a graduate passage Page 10 of 20

261 rate that is not more lower than 10 percentage points lower less 262 than the average passage rate during the same calendar year for 263 graduates of comparable degree programs who are United States 264 educated, first-time test takers on the National Council of 265 State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination during a calendar 266 year, as calculated by the contract testing service of the 267 National Council of State Boards of Nursing. For purposes of 268 this subparagraph, an approved program is comparable to all 269 degree programs of the same program type from among the 270 following program types:

a. Professional nursing education programs that terminatein a bachelor's degree.

b. Professional nursing education programs that terminatein an associate degree.

275 c. Professional nursing education programs that terminate276 in a diploma.

277

d. Practical nursing education programs.

278 Beginning with graduate passage rates for calendar year 2. 279 2010, if an approved program's graduate passage rates do not 280 equal or exceed the required passage rates for 2 consecutive 281 calendar years, the board shall place the program on 282 probationary status pursuant to chapter 120 and the program 283 director shall must appear before the board to present a plan 284 for remediation. The program must shall remain on probationary 285 status until it achieves a graduate passage rate that equals or 286 exceeds the required passage rate for any 1 calendar year. The Page 11 of 20

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287 board shall deny a program application for a new prelicensure 288 nursing education program submitted by an educational 289 institution if the institution has an existing program that is 290 already on probationary status.

291 Upon the program's achievement of a graduate passage 3. 292 rate that equals or exceeds the required passage rate, the 293 board, at its next regularly scheduled meeting following release 294 of the program's graduate passage rate by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, shall remove the program's 295 296 probationary status. However, if the program, during the 2 297 calendar years following its placement on probationary status, 298 does not achieve the required passage rate for any 1 calendar 299 year, the board shall terminate the program pursuant to chapter 300 120.

301 (b) If an approved program fails to submit the annual 302 report required in subsection (3) (4), the board shall notify 303 the program director and president or chief executive officer of 304 the educational institution in writing within 15 days after the 305 due date of the annual report. The program director shall must 306 appear before the board at the board's next regularly scheduled 307 meeting to explain the reason for the delay. The board shall 308 terminate the program pursuant to chapter 120 if it does not 309 submit the annual report within 6 months after the due date.

310 (c) An approved program on probationary status shall 311 disclose its probationary status in writing to the program's 312 students and applicants.

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(6) (7) DISCLOSURE OF GRADUATE PASSAGE RATE DATA.-313 314 (a) For each graduate of the program an approved program's 315 or accredited program's graduates included in the calculation of 316 the program's graduate passage rate, the department shall 317 disclose to the program director, upon his or her written 318 request, the name, examination date, and determination of 319 whether each graduate passed or failed the National Council of 320 for State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination, if to the extent that such information is provided to the department by 321 the contract testing service of the National Council of for 322 323 State Boards of Nursing. The written request must specify the 324 calendar years for which the information is requested. 325 A program director to whom confidential information (b) 326 exempt from public disclosure pursuant to s. 456.014 is 327 disclosed under this subsection must maintain the 328 confidentiality of the information and is subject to the same 329 penalties provided in s. 456.082 for department employees who 330 unlawfully disclose confidential information. 331 (7) (8) PROGRAM CLOSURE.-332 An educational institution conducting an approved (a) 333 program or accredited program in this state, at least 30 days 334 before voluntarily closing the program, shall notify the board in writing of the institution's reason for closing the program, 335 336 the intended closure date, the institution's plan to provide for

337 or assist in the completion of training by the program's

students, and the arrangements for storage of the program's $$\mathsf{Page}\,13\,of\,20$$

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339 permanent records.

(b) An educational institution conducting a nursing
education program that is terminated under subsection (5) (6) or
closed under subparagraph (9) (b) 3. (10) (b) 3.:

343

1. May not accept or enroll new students.

2. <u>Shall</u> Must submit to the board within 30 days after the program is terminated or closed a written description of how the institution will assist in <u>completing</u> the <u>completion of</u> training <u>of</u> by the program's students and the institution's arrangements for storage of the program's permanent records.

(c) If an educational institution does not comply with paragraph (a) or paragraph (b), the board shall provide a written notice explaining the institution's noncompliance to the following persons and entities:

353 1. The president or chief executive officer of the354 educational institution.

355 2. The Board of Governors, if the program is conducted by356 a state university.

357 3. The district school board, if the program is conducted358 by an educational institution operated by a school district.

359 4. The Commission for Independent Education, if the
360 program is conducted by an educational institution licensed
361 under chapter 1005.

362 5. The State Board of Education, if the program is 363 conducted by an educational institution in the Florida College 364 System or by an educational institution that is not subject to Page 14 of 20

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365 subparagraphs 2.-4.

366 (8) (9) RULEMAKING.-The board does not have any rulemaking 367 authority to administer this section, except that the board 368 shall adopt rules a rule that prescribe prescribes the format 369 for submitting program applications under subsection (1) and 370 annual reports under subsection (3), and to administer the documentation of the accreditation of nursing education programs 371 372 under subsection (11) (4). The board may not impose any 373 condition or requirement on an educational institution 374 submitting a program application, an approved program, or an 375 accredited program, except as expressly provided in this 376 section. The board shall repeal all rules, or portions thereof, 377 in existence on July 1, 2009, that are inconsistent with this 378 subsection.

379

(9) (10) APPLICABILITY TO ACCREDITED PROGRAMS.-

(a) Subsections (1)-(3) (1)-(4), paragraph (4) (b) (5) (b),
and subsection (5) (6) do not apply to an accredited program. An
accredited program on probationary status before July 1, 2010,
ceases to be subject to the probationary status.

(b) If an accredited program ceases to be accredited, theeducational institution conducting the program:

386 1. Within 10 business days after the program ceases to be 387 accredited, must provide written notice of the date that the 388 program ceased to be accredited to the board, the program's 389 students and applicants, and each entity providing clinical 390 training sites or community-based clinical experience sites for Page 15 of 20

391 the program. The educational institution must continue to 392 provide the written notice to new students, applicants, and 393 entities providing clinical training sites or community-based 394 clinical experience sites for the program until the program 395 becomes an approved program or is closed under subparagraph 3.

396 Within 30 days after the program ceases to be 2. 397 accredited, must submit an affidavit to the board, signed by the 398 educational institution's president or chief executive officer 399 which, that certifies the institution's compliance with 400 subparagraph 1. The board shall notify the required persons and 401 applicable entities listed in paragraph (7)(c) persons listed in 402 subparagraph (8) (c) 1. and the applicable entities listed in 403 subparagraphs (8) (c)2.-5. if an educational institution does not 404 submit the affidavit required by this subparagraph.

3. May apply to become an approved program under thissection. If the educational institution:

407 Within 30 days after the program ceases to be a. 408 accredited, submits a program application and review fee to the 409 department under subsection (1) and the affidavit required under 410 subparagraph 2., the program shall be deemed an approved program 411 from the date that the program ceased to be accredited until the 412 date that the board approves or denies the program application. 413 The program application must be denied by the board pursuant to 414 chapter 120 if it does not contain the affidavit. If the board 415 denies the program application under subsection (2) or if 416 because the program application does not contain the affidavit, Page 16 of 20

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417 the program shall be closed and the educational institution 418 conducting the program must comply with paragraph (7)(b) (8)(b).

b. Does not apply to become an approved program pursuant to sub-subparagraph a., the program shall be deemed an approved program from the date that the program ceased to be accredited until the 31st day after that date. On the 31st day after the program ceased to be accredited, the program shall be closed and the educational institution conducting the program must comply with paragraph <u>(7)(b)</u> (8)(b).

IMPLEMENTATION STUDY.-The Florida Center for 426 (10)(11) 427 Nursing and the education policy area of the Office of Program 428 Policy Analysis and Government Accountability shall study the 5-429 year administration of this section and submit reports to the 430 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the 431 House of Representatives by January 30, 2011, and annually 432 thereafter through January 30, 2015. The annual reports shall 433 address the previous academic year; provide set forth data on 434 the measures specified in paragraphs (a) and (b), as such data 435 becomes available; and include an evaluation of such data for 436 purposes of determining whether this section is increasing the 437 availability of nursing education programs and the production of 438 quality nurses. The department and each approved program or 439 accredited program shall comply with requests for data from the 440 Florida Center for Nursing and the education policy area of the 441 Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability. 442 (a) The Florida Center for Nursing education policy area Page 17 of 20

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443	of the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government
444	Accountability shall evaluate program-specific data for each
445	approved program and accredited program conducted in the state,
446	including, but not limited to:
447	1. The number of programs and student slots available.
448	2. The number of student applications submitted, the
449	number of qualified applicants, and the number of students
450	accepted.
451	3. The number of program graduates.
452	4. Program retention rates of students tracked from
453	program entry to graduation.
454	5. Graduate passage rates on the National Council of State
455	Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination.
456	6. The number of graduates who become employed as
457	practical or professional nurses in the state.
458	(b) The Florida Center for Nursing shall evaluate the
459	board's implementation of the:
460	1. Program application approval process, including, but
461	not limited to, the number of program applications submitted
462	under subsection (1); the number of program applications
463	approved and denied by the board under subsection (2); the
464	number of denials of program applications reviewed under chapter
465	120; and a description of the outcomes of those reviews.
466	2. Accountability processes, including, but not limited
467	to, the number of programs on probationary status, the number of
468	approved programs for which the program director is required to
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469 appear before the board under subsection (5) (6), the number of 470 approved programs terminated by the board, the number of 471 terminations reviewed under chapter 120, and a description of 472 the outcomes of those reviews.

473 (c) For any state fiscal year in which the Florida Center
474 for Nursing does not receive legislative appropriations, the
475 education policy area of the Office of Program Policy Analysis
476 and Government Accountability shall perform the duties assigned
477 by this subsection to the Florida Center for Nursing.

478 (11) ACCREDITATION REQUIRED.479 (a) A nursing education program that prepares students for
480 the practice of professional nursing, that was approved under
481 this section before July 1, 2014, and that enrolled students
482 before July 1, 2014, must be accredited by an accrediting agency
483 described in s. 464.003(1) by July 1, 2019.

(b) A nursing education program that prepares students for the practice of professional nursing, that was approved under this section before July 1, 2014, but did not enroll students before that date, must become accredited by an accrediting agency described in s. 464.003(1) within 5 years after the date of enrolling the program's first students.

490 (c) A nursing education program that prepares students for
 491 the practice of professional nursing and that is approved by the
 492 board after June 30, 2014, must become accredited by an
 493 accrediting agency described in s. 464.003(1) within 5 years

494 after the date of enrolling the program's first students.

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495 (d) This subsection does not apply to a nursing education 496 program provided by an institution that is exempted from 497 licensure by the Commission for Independent Education under s. 498 1005.06(1)(e). 499 Subsection (1) of section 456.014, Florida Section 4. 500 Statutes, is amended to read: 501 456.014 Public inspection of information required from 502 applicants; exceptions; examination hearing.-503 (1) All information required by the department of any 504 applicant shall be a public record and shall be open to public inspection pursuant to s. 119.07, except financial information, 505 506 medical information, school transcripts, examination questions, 507 answers, papers, grades, and grading keys, which are 508 confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and shall not be 509 discussed with or made accessible to anyone except the program 510 director of an approved program or accredited program as provided in s. 464.019(6) $\frac{464.019(7)}{7}$, members of the board, the 511 512 department, and staff thereof, who have a bona fide need to know 513 such information. Any information supplied to the department by 514 any other agency which is exempt from the provisions of chapter 515 119 or is confidential shall remain exempt or confidential pursuant to applicable law while in the custody of the 516 517 department or the agency. 518 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.

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