STATE OF NEW YORK

10050--A

IN ASSEMBLY

January 30, 2026

Introduced by M. of A. SHIMSKY, SHRESTHA, HOOKS, OTIS, BURROUGHS, KIM, KASSAY, SIMONE, PAULIN, TAPIA, BURDICK, LEVENBERG, ROSENTHAL, CASHMAN, GALLAGHER, GLICK, SAYEGH, SIMON, KELLES -- read once and referred to the Committee on Transportation -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the transportation law, in relation to creating a road salt reduction policies and applicator training program and requiring the training of state agencies and state contractors which use road salt

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The transportation law is amended by adding a new section 23 to read as follows:

§ 23. Road salt reduction policies and applicator training program. 1. (a) For the purposes of this section, the term "road salt" shall mean a mineral form of sodium chloride which melts snow and ice by lowering the freezing point of water.

(b) The commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of environmental conservation, shall, no later than December first, two thousand twenty-seven, establish a set of comprehensive road salt reduction policies and standards to include, but not be limited to, reasonable application methods, techniques, rates and frequencies to measurably reduce road salt applied to public roadways, enhancement of winter road maintenance levels of service and best management practices, and monitoring and operational plan goals, objectives, and activities.

2. (a) The commissioner shall, no later than December first, two thousand twenty-eight, design a road salt applicator training program to train road salt applicators in meeting the standards of the road salt reduction policies established pursuant to subdivision one of this section. Such road salt applicator training program shall include, but need not be limited to:

(i) Instruction in the science of road salt, granular road salt alternatives and road salt pollution;

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

LBD13872-03-6

(ii) Training materials regarding the environmental and human health impacts of road salt;

(iii) Best practices for the application of sodium chloride to roads, parking lots, and sidewalks, such as the establishment of baseline standards for salt application policies and practices for winter management operations;

(iv) Use of state of the art equipment for snow and ice removal;

(v) Use of monitoring technologies for annual reporting of road salt use by location;

(vi) A plan of action for the reduction or elimination of sodium chloride pollution in environmentally sensitive areas;

(vii) A verification process for assuring best practices are being implemented and shall continue to be implemented;

(viii) The use of road salt alternatives; and

(ix) A process for certification of trained and approved applicators, including particular locations for in-person training, and a time period within which to complete continuing training requirements.

(b) In creating the road salt applicator training program, the commissioner shall use best efforts to review current programs and research being conducted in the state.

(c) In creating the road salt application training program, the commissioner shall consider the ability to open the training to all applicators applying road salt on public roadways, driveways and parking lots.

3. The commissioner shall prepare and submit to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, the speaker of the assembly, the minority leaders of the senate and assembly, and the chairs of the senate and assembly committees on transportation, on or before December first, two thousand twenty-nine, a report containing the department's findings and recommendations following the implementation of the road salt applicator training program established pursuant to subdivision two of this section that include, but are not limited to:

(a) Recommendations for expanding the availability of the training program;

(b) Recommendations regarding funding options or assistance to localities for purchase of state of the art equipment for the application of road salt;

(c) Findings, using existing data and information, regarding locations in the state where road salt contamination may be a threat to the environment, property or human health, to the extent that such information is available from the department of environmental conservation and the department of health;

(d) Findings regarding the use of similar programs in other states; and

(e) Findings regarding costs associated with conducting such program.

4. Effective January first, two thousand twenty-nine, the department, every state agency, and every state contractor which applies road salt on state roads, driveways and parking lots shall use the training materials established in subdivision two of this section to train and inform employees on the best practices of applying road salt.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.