STATE OF NEW YORK

5384

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 3, 2023

Introduced by Sen. HARCKHAM -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Transportation

AN ACT to amend the transportation law, in relation to creating a road salt applicator training program

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 applicator training program. 1. (a) The commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of the department of environmental conservation, shall create a road salt applicator training program that shall include, but not be limited to:

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

(ii) Best practices for the application of sodium chloride to roads, parking lots, and sidewalks;

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

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

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

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

(vii) The use of road salt alternatives; and

(viii) A process for certification of trained and approved applicators, including particular locations for such training program, 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 consult with current programs and research being conducted in the state such as those undertaken by the

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

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Fund for Lake George, the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, and Cornell University.

2. The commissioner shall prepare and submit to the the governor, the temporary president of the senate, the speaker of the assembly, the chair of the senate committee on transportation, and the chair of the assembly committee on transportation, on or before December first, two thousand twenty-four, a report containing the road salt applicator program findings and recommendations that include, but are not limited to:

(a) Recommendations for conducting the training program by agency staff or a private contractor;

(b) Findings regarding the appropriateness of limited liability relief for certified applicators;

(c) Recommendations regarding funding options or assistance to localities for purchase of state of the art equipment;

(d) 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;

(e) Findings regarding the use of similar programs in other states, such as Rhode Island and Minnesota;

(f) Recommendations regarding a timeline for implementation of the road salt applicator training program; and

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

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.