

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:

1 Section 1. The transportation law is amended by adding a new section
2 23 to read as follows:

3 § 23. Road salt reduction policies and applicator training program. 1.

4 (a) For the purposes of this section, the term "road salt" shall mean a
5 mineral form of sodium chloride which melts snow and ice by lowering the
6 freezing point of water.

7 (b) The commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of envi-
8 ronmental conservation, shall, no later than December first, two thou-
9 sand twenty-seven, establish a set of comprehensive road salt reduction
10 policies and standards to include, but not be limited to, reasonable
11 application methods, techniques, rates and frequencies to measurably
12 reduce road salt applied to public roadways, enhancement of winter road
13 maintenance levels of service and best management practices, and moni-
14 toring and operational plan goals, objectives, and activities.

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

21 (i) Instruction in the science of road salt, granular road salt alter-
22 natives and road salt pollution;

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

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

3 (iii) Best practices for the application of sodium chloride to roads,
4 parking lots, and sidewalks, such as the establishment of baseline stan-
5 dards for salt application policies and practices for winter management
6 operations;

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

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

10 (vi) A plan of action for the reduction or elimination of sodium chlo-
11 ride pollution in environmentally sensitive areas;

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

14 (viii) The use of road salt alternatives; and

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

18 (b) In creating the road salt applicator training program, the commis-
19 sioner shall use best efforts to review current programs and research
20 being conducted in the state.

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

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

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

35 (b) Recommendations regarding funding options or assistance to locali-
36 ties for purchase of state of the art equipment for the application of
37 road salt;

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

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

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

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

51 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.