

Transportation

RECEIVED

SENATE FILE **348**

BY HAGERLA, VANDE HOEF,
TAYLOR, PATE, HEDGE,
NYSTROM, JENSEN, TIEDEN,
and HESTER

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring study and formulation of a plan to implement
2 salt substitutes for the deicing of state highways.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20
- 21
- 22

SF 348

1 Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. The following findings
2 support the review of the use of salt as a primary deicing
3 agent on state highways, as environmental damage from salt use
4 is considered too great relative to the safety it provides to
5 the motoring public, with the objective that salt be phased
6 out and replaced with an environmentally safe deicing method:

7 1. The use of deicing salt on some state highways has
8 resulted in environmental damage to trees and other roadside
9 vegetation, surface water, and groundwater.

10 2. Deicing salt causes corrosion problems to public
11 infrastructure and private automobiles.

12 3. Reduced use of deicing materials increases the number
13 of vehicular accidents and results in additional delays in the
14 movement of interstate transportation.

15 4. It is necessary to develop a snow and ice removal
16 policy which balances environmental concerns and concern for
17 the safety of the motoring public.

18 Sec. 2. DEICING POLICY PLANNING -- REPORT --
19 IMPLEMENTATION.

20 1. The state department of transportation shall be
21 required to do all of the following:

22 a. Evaluate the usage of deicing salt substitutes on state
23 highways.

24 b. Develop a preliminary plan for implementing a deicing
25 policy for state highways to include the information set out
26 in subsection 3.

27 2. The department shall report its findings and
28 recommendations to the general assembly and the governor on or
29 before January 15, 1992.

30 3. a. The department shall adopt and implement, by July
31 1, 1993, a deicing policy for state highways. The policy
32 shall be set forth in a plan which shall be prepared in
33 cooperation with a specially selected steering committee
34 composed of local, state, and federal government agencies, as
35 determined by the department.

1 b. The plan shall include, but not be limited to, all of
2 the following:

3 (1) A review of research conducted in the various states
4 on the use of deicing salt substitutes.

5 (2) An analysis of the costs to the public and private
6 sectors, including, but not limited to, damage to vegetation,
7 highway structures, and motor vehicles, of using salt as a
8 deicing agent as compared with the use of commercially
9 available substitute deicing materials.

10 (3) A plan, including schedules, for phasing out the use
11 of salt as a primary deicing agent on routes where significant
12 environmental damage has already occurred.

13 (4) An analysis of the direct costs for both initial
14 capital costs and annual costs to convert from salt to a
15 substitute material for the phaseout period and an analysis of
16 the ongoing annual costs for the following years.

17 EXPLANATION

18 This bill expresses legislative intent that an
19 environmentally sound alternative be found for the use of salt
20 for the deicing of state highways. It requires the state
21 department of transportation to study the use of salt
22 substitutes and to present a preliminary plan including
23 findings and recommendations to the general assembly and the
24 governor by January 15, 1992. The bill requires the
25 department to adopt and implement a plan which must be
26 prepared in cooperation with a specially selected committee of
27 local, state, and federal governmental agencies by July 1,
28 1993.

29
30
31
32
33
34
35