

2026 SESSION

INTRODUCED

26103807D

1 **SENATE BILL NO. 482**

2 Offered January 14, 2026

3 Prefiled January 13, 2026

4 *A BILL to direct the Virginia Department of Transportation to study safe and environmentally sensitive*
5 *alternatives to using Sodium Chloride to treat and pretreat roadways for winter weather; report.*

6 _____
7 Patron—Roem
8 _____

9 Referred to Committee on Rules
10 _____

11 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

12 **1. § 1. That the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) shall conduct a study on safe and**
13 **environmentally sensitive alternatives to using Sodium Chloride, or rock salt, to treat and pretreat roadways**
14 **for winter weather and evaluate the potential costs and benefits of such alternatives. In conducting the**
15 **study, VDOT shall measure the impact of current treatment and pretreatment substances on infrastructure**
16 **and the environment and their corrosive effects on personal property and compare such impacts to the**
17 **impact of potential alternatives on infrastructure, environment, and personal property. The study shall**
18 **consider a variety of alternatives, including nonchemical substances and new technologies, and compare the**
19 **costs and potential savings of each. VDOT shall submit a report to the Chairs of the House and Senate**
20 **Committees on Transportation no later than November 15, 2026, on its findings that shall include an**
21 **accounting of the annual spending by the state and local governments since 2020 on treating and**
22 **pretreating activities and the amounts budgeted for 2026-2028. VDOT shall submit the report to the chair of**
23 **the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources or the Senate Committee on**
Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources upon request.

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