

**Department of Planning and Budget
2026 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement**

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: SB482

Patron: Roem

Bill Title: Study; Virginia Department of Transportation; alternatives to use of Sodium Chloride to treat and pretreat roadways for winter weather; report.

Bill Summary: Directs the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to conduct a study on safe and environmentally sensitive alternatives to using Sodium Chloride, or rock salt, to treat and pretreat roadways for winter weather. Such study shall measure the impact of current treatment and pretreatment substances on infrastructure and the environment and their corrosive effects on personal property and compare such impacts with those of potential alternatives, including nonchemical substances and new technologies. VDOT is directed to submit a report to the chairs of the House and Senate Committees on Transportation by November 15, 2026, on its findings and include in such report an accounting of the annual spending by the state and local governments since 2020 on treating and pretreating activities and the amounts budgeted for 2026-2028.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No

Items Impacted: N/A

Explanation: N/A

Fiscal Summary: The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) anticipates that the study required by the bill would cost up to \$200,000 in staff and consultant resources. The costs would be absorbed within existing resources.

Fiscal Analysis: VDOT estimates assume three consultants for approximately 300 hours each at a rate of approximately \$200 per hour. The amount above includes additional costs for VDOT staff assisting with the report. Costs may be lower if it is determined that existing staff are able to be redirected towards this report.

Other: None.