

10 **A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE DEICING AGENTS USED IN MARYLAND**

20 **WHEREAS:** Rock Salt, sodium chloride, is the most common deicer used for road treatment in
30 Maryland; and,

40 **WHEREAS:** Sodium chloride is highly corrosive, having a negative effect not only on roadway
50 infrastructure and automobiles; and,

60 **WHEREAS:** This corrosion shortens the lifespan of these structures, costing the state huge amounts of
70 money in excessive maintenance and early replacement costs; and,

80 **WHEREAS:** Sodium chloride also has a massive effect on fragile ecosystems, upsetting the balance of
90 healthy water and causing substantial damage to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed; and,

100 **WHEREAS:** There are alternative compounds, including alternative salts and organic compounds, that
110 can be used to deice roads; and,

120 **WHEREAS:** These alternative compounds are much less corrosive than sodium chloride, and have a
130 much lower impact on the environment; and,

140 **WHEREAS:** The opportunity to protect Maryland’s delicate infrastructure and environment is one that
150 the state must seize.

160 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Maryland Student Legislature encourages the Maryland
170 Department of Transportation to study and adopt less corrosive and less environmentally
180 harmful deicing compounds and/or mixtures.

190 **MANDATES:**

- 200 Martin O'Malley, Governor
- 210 Michael Busch, Speaker of the House
- 220 Thomas V. Miller, President of the Senate
- 230 Secretary Beverley K. Swaim-Staley, Maryland Department of Transportation
- 240 Neil Pedersen, Maryland State Highway Administration Administrator

Sponsor:
Scott Thomas Besore, Delegation Chair Person, Salisbury University.