



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Office of the
Commissioner

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**Public Hearing – March 14, 2011
Transportation Committee**

**Testimony Submitted by Acting Commissioner James P. Redeker
Department of Transportation**

**H.B. 6571 – An Act Requiring an Analysis of the Corrosive Effects of Chemical Road
Treatments.**

The Department of Transportation (Department) is opposed to H.B. 6571.

The Department averages 180- 220 pounds of salt per lane mile per application compared to New York and Massachusetts which average 380 – 400 pounds per lane mile per application. Use of calcium chloride further reduces the “bounce” and “scatter” of the traditional salt application which decreases waste of salt by 30%.

At present, there are many ongoing studies regarding salt usage at the federal level through AASHTO (American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials), NCHRP (National Cooperative Highway Research Program), CASE (Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering) and several universities. The Department is and will continue to work with the Federal Government in developing and adjusting, as necessary, our snow and ice guidelines as new guidance is issued.

The study outlined in H.B. 6571 would be a duplication of effort and take several years to complete. In addition, the Department does not have the internal resources to conduct this type of study. Therefore, it would need to be contracted out to a private/neutral entity (approximately \$250,000).

For further information or questions, please contact Pam Sucato, Legislative Program Manager for the Department of Transportation, at (860) 594-3013.