

# HOUSE BILL 216

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HB 371/22 – ENT

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By: **Delegates Qi, Foley, Fraser–Hidalgo, Guyton, Palakovich Carr, and Ruth**  
Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2023  
Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment – Salt Applicator Certification Program – Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of the Environment to establish a Salt  
4 Applicator Certification Program to encourage efficient winter maintenance of  
5 roadways, parking lots, and sidewalks through the use of salt or salt alternatives;  
6 requiring each commercial applicator to participate in the Program, be certified on  
7 or before a certain date, and maintain a valid certification; requiring the Department  
8 to cover the cost of a certain fee for a commercial applicator who successfully  
9 completes the Program on or before a certain date; and generally relating to a Salt  
10 Applicator Certification Program.

11 BY adding to

12 Article – Environment

13 Section 9–2501 through 9–2504 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 25. Salt  
14 Applicator Certification Program”

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
18 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article – Environment**

20 **SUBTITLE 25. SALT APPLICATOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.**

21 **9–2501.**

22 **(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**  
23 **INDICATED.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (B) "CERTIFIED COMMERCIAL APPLICATOR" MEANS A COMMERCIAL  
2 APPLICATOR WHO IS CERTIFIED UNDER THE PROGRAM.

3 (C) (1) "COMMERCIAL APPLICATOR" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO  
4 OPERATES A BUSINESS OR NONPROFIT AND:

5 (I) APPLIES SALT OR A SALT ALTERNATIVE; OR

6 (II) SUPERVISES OTHER INDIVIDUALS WHO APPLY SALT OR A  
7 SALT ALTERNATIVE.

8 (2) "COMMERCIAL APPLICATOR" DOES NOT INCLUDE:

9 (I) STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES;

10 (II) THE OWNER OF AN OWNER-OCCUPIED RESIDENTIAL  
11 PROPERTY; OR

12 (III) THE LANDLORD OR TENANT OF A SINGLE-UNIT  
13 RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY.

14 (D) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE SALT APPLICATOR CERTIFICATION  
15 PROGRAM.

16 (E) "SALT" MEANS SODIUM CHLORIDE, CALCIUM CHLORIDE, MAGNESIUM  
17 CHLORIDE, OR ANY OTHER SUBSTANCE THAT CONTAINS CHLORIDE AND IS USED FOR  
18 THE PURPOSE OF DEICING OR ANTI-ICING.

19 (F) "SALT ALTERNATIVE" MEANS ANY SUBSTANCE THAT:

20 (1) DOES NOT CONTAIN CHLORIDE; AND

21 (2) IS USED FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEICING OR ANTI-ICING.

22 9-2502.

23 (A) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH A SALT APPLICATOR  
24 CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.

25 (2) THE DEPARTMENT:

26 (I) SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM; OR

1                   **(II) MAY DELEGATE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROGRAM TO A**  
2 **PERSON CERTIFIED IN THE USE OF SALT AND SALT ALTERNATIVES FOR THE WINTER**  
3 **MAINTENANCE OF ROADWAYS, PARKING LOTS, AND SIDEWALKS.**

4           **(B) THE PROGRAM SHALL:**

5                   **(1) ENCOURAGE EFFICIENT WINTER MAINTENANCE OF ROADWAYS,**  
6 **PARKING LOTS, AND SIDEWALKS THROUGH THE USE OF SALT OR SALT**  
7 **ALTERNATIVES; AND**

8                   **(2) PROVIDE A CERTIFICATION TO A COMMERCIAL APPLICATOR WHO**  
9 **SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES THE PROGRAM.**

10           **(C) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CHARGE A FEE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE**  
11 **PROGRAM.**

12                   **(2) THE FEE CHARGED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION**  
13 **SHALL BE SET AT AN AMOUNT THAT RECOVERS THE COSTS OF ADMINISTERING THE**  
14 **PROGRAM.**

15           **(D) EACH COMMERCIAL APPLICATOR MUST:**

16                   **(1) PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM;**

17                   **(2) BE CERTIFIED ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2025; AND**

18                   **(3) MAINTAIN A VALID CERTIFICATION TO CONTINUE PROVIDING THE**  
19 **SERVICES OF A COMMERCIAL APPLICATOR.**

20           **(E) A SALT APPLICATOR CERTIFICATION IS VALID FOR 3 YEARS.**

21 **9-2503.**

22           **A CERTIFIED COMMERCIAL APPLICATOR SHALL:**

23                   **(1) MAINTAIN, FOR A MINIMUM OF 3 YEARS, RECORDS OF EACH SALT**  
24 **APPLICATION FOR A WINTER WEATHER EVENT; AND**

25                   **(2) SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT ON THE CERTIFIED COMMERCIAL**  
26 **APPLICATOR'S SALT USE TO THE DEPARTMENT.**

27 **9-2504.**

1           **THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SUBTITLE.**

2           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of the  
3 Environment shall cover the cost of the fee charged under § 9–2502 of the Environment  
4 Article, as enacted under Section 1 of this Act, for a commercial applicator who successfully  
5 completes the Salt Applicator Certification Program, as enacted under Section 1 of this Act,  
6 on or before October 1, 2024.

7           SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
8 October 1, 2023.