

automobiles, highway structures, and damaged underground utilities; and

WHEREAS, Alternatives must be studied to assure public safety and the continued free flow of highway traffic with less severe economic and environmental costs; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Department of Transportation is requested to study the economic and environmental impact of using salt to remove ice from highways, and to evaluate and recommend possible alternatives; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Department of Transportation report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by December 31, 1986, and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Reference to the Honorable William K. Heilmann, Secretary, Department of Transportation, P. O. Box 8755, Baltimore, Washington International Airport, Baltimore, Maryland 21240.

Highway Deicing Salts and Chemicals - Effects
on Chesapeake Bay

FOR the purpose of establishing a task force to study the effects on the Chesapeake Bay of salts and other chemicals used to deice highways.

WHEREAS, The Chesapeake Bay is a natural resource of inestimable value to the State and the nation; and

WHEREAS, This State has acknowledged the great importance of the Chesapeake Bay by taking measures to restore and protect the Bay, its tributaries, and adjacent lands; and

WHEREAS, Salts and other chemicals used to deice highways may have a detrimental effect on soils, vegetation, and surface water and groundwater supplies, thereby negating the positive efforts made to clean up the Bay and to protect its delicate ecosystem; and

WHEREAS, In order truly to protect the Chesapeake Bay, road deicing chemicals with potentially serious negative impacts on the Bay must be studied carefully and weighed against the alternatives; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Legislative Policy Committee is requested to establish a task force to study the effects on the Chesapeake Bay of salts and other chemicals used to deice highways; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the task force be composed of: