

ASSEMBLY, No. 3875

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 23, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman YVONNE LOPEZ

District 19 (Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes strategic road salt reserve fund and strategic road salt reserve within DOT.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** concerning road salt reserves and supplementing Title 27
2 of the Revised Statutes.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. a. There is established in the General Fund a separate, non-
8 lapsing, dedicated account to be known as the "New Jersey
9 Strategic Road Salt Reserve Fund." This fund shall be maintained
10 by the State Treasurer.

11 b. Moneys in the fund shall be appropriated annually to the
12 Department of Transportation for the costs of purchasing, storing,
13 and maintaining the New Jersey Strategic Road Salt Reserve
14 established pursuant section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
15 before the Legislature as this bill).

16 c. The fund shall accept any moneys that: (1) the Legislature
17 may appropriate into the fund from time to time to establish and
18 maintain the New Jersey Strategic Road Salt Reserve established
19 pursuant section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
20 Legislature as this bill); and (2) any revenues received by the
21 department from the sale of salt in the reserve to counties and
22 municipalities.

23
24 2. a. There is hereby established in the Department of
25 Transportation a "New Jersey Strategic Road Salt Reserve."

26 b. The reserve shall consist of three road salt storage facilities,
27 of which one shall be located in the northern portion of the State,
28 one shall be located in the central part of the State, and one shall be
29 located in the southern part of the State.

30 c. Each facility shall be accessible by municipal and county
31 public works departments.

32 d. The Commissioner of Transportation, in consultation with
33 the Director of the State Office of Emergency Management, shall
34 determine the amount of salt to be purchased and stored each year.

35 e. Any road salt remaining in the reserve at the end of the year
36 shall be stored for use in the following year.

37
38 3. a. The department shall make road salt from the New Jersey
39 Strategic Road Salt Reserve available for purchase to counties and
40 municipalities in the State which have exhausted their own supply
41 of road salt during a winter season.

42 b. The commissioner shall establish a process for counties and
43 municipalities to purchase road salt from the reserve. This process
44 shall include: (1) setting a price for the road salt based upon the
45 department's actual expenses incurred in acquiring and maintaining
46 the reserve; (2) verification that the county or municipality
47 purchased and exhausted a supply of road salt in the current fiscal

1 year; and (3) verification that the county or municipality was unable
2 to reasonably acquire a replacement supply of road salt.

3 c. The reserve is to be held separately from any road salt
4 supply acquired by the department for the department's own winter
5 operations.

6 d. The department shall not access any quantities of road salt
7 from the reserve for its own use.

8
9 4. The department may adopt such rules and regulations
10 pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410
11 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) as may be necessary to effectuate the purposes
12 of this act.

13
14 5. This act shall take effect on July 1 next following the date of
15 enactment.

16
17
18 STATEMENT

19
20 This bill establishes a New Jersey Strategic Road Salt Reserve
21 (reserve) in the Department of Transportation (department) and
22 New Jersey Strategic Road Salt Fund (fund) in the General Fund.
23 The reserve will consist of three road salt storage facilities to be
24 located in the northern, central, and southern portions of the State.
25 The reserve will be a supply of road salt available for purchase by
26 counties and municipalities that have exhausted their own supplies
27 of road salt during the winter and are unable to reasonably access a
28 replacement supply. The amount charged by the department for
29 road salt from the reserve will be based on the department's actual
30 costs to operate the reserve.

31 Monies from the fund shall annually be appropriated to the
32 department for the cost of administering the reserve. The annual
33 purchase of road salt for the reserve shall be determined by the
34 Commissioner of Transportation in consultation with the Director
35 of the State Office of Emergency management. Monies in the fund
36 shall consist of legislative appropriations and revenues from the
37 sale of road salt reserves to counties and municipalities.

38 The purpose of the reserve is to preserve public roadway safety
39 by providing a safety net for local governments who must ration or
40 eliminate salt spreading due to Statewide and regional shortages.