



Saint Paul, MN, December 27, 2023

Dear State Legislators,

The Minnesota Council on Latino Affairs (MCLA) supports the establishment of a certified salt applicator program. We respectfully request your support on this important bill to ensure environmental protections by avoiding overuse of salt, and more fairness in an industry that is frequently exposed to lawsuits.

This bill will establish a certification program where participants could receive liability protection by providing proof that they have utilized best practices thanks to the training program. We believe that the program will reduce the amount of salt that is being currently used and polluting our waters, while also educating new professionals on the correct usage of salt for snow and ice management purposes.

Per Census data, in the United States since 2010, the percentage of Latino deicers has increased from 15% to 18.4%, and these numbers will continue to increase. By participating in this new program, members of our community will not only be getting ahead in their careers by obtaining this certification, but they will also be helping preserve our Lakes and waterways for their families and all Minnesotans.

Finally, as it has been conceived, the program will not provide immunity to salt applicators. Instead, it will bring accountability to the industry by ensuring that all certified applicators will keep accurate records of their work that they will be required to present in the court of law in case of a lawsuit.

We are grateful for your time and attention to this request. Should you have any questions, please contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Rosa Tock  
Executive Director  
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