1014-Z1-1610 **Barry Schiller*** (`bschiller@ric.edu`), c/o Mathematics/Computer Science Department, Rhode Island College, Providence, RI 02908. *Adventures with Regression in the RI State Legislature.*

This talk will describe the author's experience in the Rhode Island state legislature relating to a bill to allow the use of more sodium chloride in treating roads after snowstorms in the Scituate Reservoir watershed, the state's main source of drinking water. The bill's justification was based on a regression calculation in a study of the effectiveness of about a decade of using less sodium and more (expensive!) calcium chloride on these roads. However, my reading of the study led to questions about whether the Water Supply Board that commissioned the study had properly understood the conclusion. These questions were taken to the legislature that had to decide what to do. This talk will explain the situation, discuss the statistical methodology, and cdescribe the actual legislative outcome. (Received September 28, 2005)