By Senators Mitchell and Thomas

4-163A-00

A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to water; creating the "Safe Water Act of 2000"; directing the Department of 3 4 Environmental Protection to establish a Water 5 and Wastewater Treatment Grant Program for 6 local governments; providing standards; 7 requiring that grant criteria be adopted by rule; providing funding; providing an effective 8 9 date. 10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 11 12 13 Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Safe Water 14 Act of 2000." Section 2. (1) The Department of Environmental 15 Protection, as lead agency, in conjunction with the Department 16 17 of Community Affairs shall establish a Water and Wastewater Treatment Grant Program for local governments and shall 18 19 develop a priority list of local governments eligible for 20 grants under the program. In developing the priority list, 21 the department shall first consider: 22 (a) Counties having a population of less than 125,000. 23 Municipalities having a population of less than 12,500. 24 25 (2) The Department of Environmental Protection shall 26 adopt rules for awarding water and wastewater treatment grants 27 based on, but not limited to, the following criteria: 28 (a) The need for water and wastewater utilities; and 29 (b) Environmental issues related to septic tanks or 30 the lack of utilities, such as: 1. Public health and safety; 31

1	2. Lack of local fiscal resources;
2	3. Consent orders or other state or federal regulatory
3	action; and
4	4. Coordination or leverage of federal funds.
5	(3) Beginning with fiscal year 2000-2001 and until
6	fiscal year 2010-2011, \$100 million shall be annually
7	deposited into the Water and Wastewater Treatment Grant
8	Program Trust Fund from the General Revenue Fund for the
9	purpose of funding the Water and Wastewater Treatment Grant
10	Program established in this section.
11	Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.
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14	SENATE SUMMARY
15	Directs the Department of Environmental Protection in conjunction with the Department of Community of Affairs
16	to establish a Water and Wastewater Treatment Grant Program for local governments. Requires that criteria for
17	awarding grants be adopted by rule. Provides funding for 10 years.
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