

By Senators Mitchell and Thomas

4-163A-00

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to water; creating the "Safe
3 Water Act of 2000"; directing the Department of
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
8 rule; providing funding; providing an effective
9 date.

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11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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13 Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Safe Water
14 Act of 2000."

15 Section 2. (1) The Department of Environmental
16 Protection, as lead agency, in conjunction with the Department
17 of Community Affairs shall establish a Water and Wastewater
18 Treatment Grant Program for local governments and shall
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 (b) Municipalities having a population of less than
24 12,500.

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:

31 1. Public health and safety;

