

Amendment No. 3 (for drafter's use only)

	<u>Senate</u>	CHAMBER ACTION	<u>House</u>
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ORIGINAL STAMP BELOW

The Committee on Utilities & Telecommunications offered the following:

Amendment

On page 2, line 14 through page 3, line 9, remove from the bill: all of said lines

and insert in lieu thereof: Assistance Program is established in the department. The department may award financial assistance to a local government in the form of a grant for the purpose of acquiring privately owned water-wastewater utilities.

(1) A local government may qualify for financial assistance if it documents to the department that the privately owned water-wastewater utility the local government intends to acquire meets the following criteria:

(a) The quality of water or wastewater service provided by the privately owned water-wastewater utility is consistently inadequate to meet public health or water quality standards; and

(b) The privately owned water-wastewater utility

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1 cannot make the improvements necessary to alleviate the public
2 health or water quality threats through its own resources
3 without increasing its rates for services to an amount beyond
4 that which is commensurate with community standards; or
5 (c) Operation of the privately owned water-wastewater
6 utility represents a public health or water quality threat
7 that would be more effectively addressed through public
8 management or ownership, as demonstrated through a feasibility
9 determination provided by the applicant for financial
10 assistance to the department, that takes into account
11 economic, managerial and administrative considerations; or
12 (d) The private utility desires to sell.

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