

finds (a) that the immediate initiation or continuation of such project is critical to the public health or water quality standards of the State, and (b) that a timely and sufficient Federal grant is not available for such project.

SECTION 14. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 5(b) of Chapter 561 of the Acts of 1966, as amended by Chapter 689 of the Acts of 1967, and as amended by Chapter 55 of the Acts of 1973, be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

5.

(b) Any county, municipality, or any agency which is entitled to receive a State grant pursuant to the provisions of Section [387(A) 2] 387B(A)2 of Article 43 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended from time to time, may petition the State Department of Health for a grant, within the following conditions and limitations:

1. That a preliminary application, in such form as the State Department of Health shall specify, must be received by the State Department of Health for each project no later than January 1 of each year, for projects to be financed during the fiscal year starting the following July 1.

2. That the final petition and such supporting documents as may be required by the State Department of Health are received by the State Department of Health no later than May 1 of each year, for all projects to be financed in the fiscal year starting the following July 1.

3. Except as provided below, a State grant offer shall be made only for a project or part of a project on which a Federal grant offer is made, and the State grant offer shall BE IN AN amount UP to one-half of the eligible cost remaining after the maximum Federal grant has been applied. In the case of a project to be operated by a State owned institution or facility, the State grant offer may equal the total cost of the project.

4. The Board of Public Works is authorized, in its discretion and upon recommendation of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, to approve a State grant not to exceed 87-1/2 percent of the eligible cost of a project or part of a project, if the Board finds (a) that the immediate initiation or continuation of such project is critical to the public health or water