

Article — Environment

0-362.

~~(A) THERE IS A WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT FUND.~~

~~(B) THE GOVERNOR SHALL PROVIDE IN THE STATE BUDGET A MINIMUM OF TEN MILLION DOLLARS IN EACH FISCAL YEAR.~~

~~(C) THE DEPARTMENT MAY DISTRIBUTE MONEY IN THE WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT FUND TO POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS OF THE STATE THROUGH GRANTS FOR IMPROVING WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE ACCORDING TO THIS SECTION.~~

~~(D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS THAT ESTABLISH APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA FOR THE AWARD OF GRANTS UNDER THIS SECTION. THE CRITERIA SHALL INCLUDE:~~

~~(1) THE NEED TO CORRECT A SUBSTANTIAL WASTEWATER SYSTEM DEFICIENCY RELATED TO SANITARY SYSTEM OVERFLOWS OR AN INFLOW OR INFILTRATION PROBLEM;~~

~~(2) MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME FOR THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION;~~

~~(3) UTILITY USER RATES FOR THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION; AND~~

~~(4) THE COST RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT AND THE USER RATES.~~

~~(E) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE LOCAL JURISDICTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH A PRIORITY RATING THAT INCORPORATES THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:~~

~~(1) THE FISCAL INABILITY OF THE LOCAL JURISDICTION TO PAY FOR THE PROPOSED WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT THROUGH A COMBINATION OF OTHERWISE AVAILABLE GRANTS AND LOANS;~~

~~(2) THE NEED FOR THE PROPOSED WASTEWATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT TO FURTHER AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY IDENTIFIED IN A PLAN PRODUCED BY A REGIONAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, A COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, OR A MUNICIPAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, WHERE APPLICABLE; AND~~

~~(3) THE CRITERIA USED TO MAKE LOANS UNDER THE MARYLAND WATER QUALITY REVOLVING LOAN FUND.~~

~~(F) THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT:~~

~~(1) AWARD MORE THAN 15% OF THE FUNDS IN THE WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT FUND TO A SINGLE LOCAL JURISDICTION DURING ANY YEAR;~~

~~(2) MAKE MORE THAN TWO GRANT AWARDS TO LOCAL JURISDICTIONS LOCATED WITHIN A SINGLE COUNTY DURING ANY YEAR; OR~~