AN ACT relating to water; revising the provisions governing the eligibility of certain purveyors of water to receive grants for making capital improvements to publicly owned water systems; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. NRS 349.983 is hereby amended to read as follows:

349.983 1. [Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, grants] Grants may be made to purveyors of water under the program only for those community and nontransient water systems that [were in operation and publicly owned on July 3, 1991. A community or nontransient water system which:

(a) Was in existence on July 3, 1991, as a privately owned, not for profit business; and

(b) Has since become publicly owned,

is also eligible to receive grants under the program.]

(a) Were in existence on January 1, 1995; and

(b) Are currently publicly owned.

2. In making its determination of which purveyors of water are to receive grants, the board shall give preference to those purveyors of water whose public water systems regularly serve fewer than 6,000 persons.

3. Each recipient of a grant shall provide [, from a source other than the State of Nevada,] an amount of money for the same purpose. The board shall develop a scale to be used to determine that amount, but [in no case may] the recipient must not be required to provide an amount less than 15 percent or more than 75 percent of the amount of the grant. The scale must be based upon the average household income of the customers of the recipient, and provide adjustments for the demonstrated economic hardship of those customers, the existence of an imminent risk to public health and any other factor that the board determines to be relevant.
4. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 1 and 2, the determination of which purveyors of water are to receive grants is solely within the discretion of the board.

Sec. 2. NRS 349.977 is hereby repealed.

Sec. 3. This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

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TEXT OF REPEALED SECTION

349.977 Limitation on use of money loaned to supplier of water. Money obtained by a supplier of water from a loan made pursuant to the program may not be used as any part of an amount of money required to be provided by the recipient as a condition of receiving a grant of money for similar purposes.