

Approp.

P.L. 1997, CHAPTER 221, *approved August 20, 1997*

Senate, No. 2142

(CORRECTED COPY)

1 **AN ACT** appropriating moneys to the Department of Environmental
2 Protection for the purpose of making zero interest loans to local
3 government units to finance a portion of the cost of construction of
4 wastewater treatment system projects.

5

6 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
7 *of New Jersey:*

8

9 1. a. (1) There is appropriated to the Department of
10 Environmental Protection from the "Wastewater Treatment Fund -
11 State Revolving Fund Accounts" (hereinafter referred to as the "State
12 Revolving Fund Accounts") contained within the "Wastewater
13 Treatment Fund" and established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1988,
14 c.133 an amount equal to the Federal fiscal year 1997 capitalization
15 grant made available to the State for wastewater treatment system
16 projects pursuant to the "Water Quality Act of 1987" (33 U.S.C.§1251
17 et seq.) and any amendatory and supplementary acts thereto
18 (hereinafter referred to as the "Federal Act").

19 (2) There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental
20 Protection any fees and penalties received pursuant to the "Marine
21 Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972," (33 U.S.C.§1401
22 et seq.), and any amendatory and supplementary acts thereto, as may
23 be deposited in the State Revolving Fund Accounts.

24 (3) There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental
25 Protection the unappropriated balances from the "Wastewater
26 Treatment Fund" established pursuant to section 15 of the
27 "Wastewater Treatment Bond Act of 1985," (P.L.1985, c.329).

28 (4) There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental
29 Protection the sum of \$10,000,000 from the "1992 Wastewater
30 Treatment Fund" established pursuant to section 27 of the "Green
31 Acres, Clean Water, Farmland and Historic Preservation Bond Act of

1 1992," (P.L.1992, c.88).

2 Any such amounts shall be for the purpose of making zero interest
3 loans, to the extent sufficient funds are available, to local government
4 units to finance a portion of the cost of construction of wastewater
5 treatment system projects listed in sections 2 and 3 of this act, and for
6 the purpose of implementing and administering the provisions of this
7 act, to the extent permitted by the "Water Quality Act of 1987" (33
8 U.S.C.§1251 et seq.), the "Marine Protection, Research, and
9 Sanctuaries Act of 1972," and any amendatory and supplementary acts
10 thereto, the "Green Acres, Clean Water, Farmland and Historic
11 Preservation Bond Act of 1992," and State law.

12 b. The department is authorized to make zero interest loans to the
13 local government units for the wastewater treatment system projects
14 listed in sections 2 and 3 of this act up to the individual amounts
15 indicated and in the priority stated, except as any such amount may be
16 reduced by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection pursuant
17 to section 6 of this act, or if a project fails to meet the requirements of
18 section 4 of this act.

19 c. The department is also authorized to make zero interest loans to
20 the local government units for the wastewater treatment system
21 projects listed in sections 2 and 3 of this act under the same terms,
22 conditions and requirements as set forth in this section from any
23 unexpended balances of the amounts appropriated pursuant to section
24 1 of P.L.1987, c.200, section 2 of P.L.1988, c.133, section 1 of
25 P.L.1989, c.189, section 1 of P.L.1990, c.99, section 1 of P.L.1991,
26 c.325, section 1 of P.L.1992, c.38, section 1 of P.L.1993, c.193,
27 section 1 of P.L.1994, c.106, section 1 of P.L.1995, c.219 or section
28 1 of P.L.1996, c.85, including amounts resulting from the low bid
29 building cost or final building cost reductions authorized pursuant to
30 section 6 of P.L.1987, c.200, section 7 of P.L.1988, c.133, section
31 6 of P.L.1989, c.189, section 6 of P.L.1990, c.99, section 6 of
32 P.L.1991, c.325, section 6 of P.L.1992, c.38, section 6 of P.L.1993,
33 c.193, section 6 of P.L.1994, c.106, section 6 of P.L.1995, c.219 and
34 section 6 of P.L.1996, c.85, and from any repayments of loans from
35 the "Wastewater Treatment Fund" or amounts deposited therein during
36 State fiscal year 1997 pursuant to the provisions of section 16 of
37 P.L.1985, c.329, including any State Revolving Fund Accounts
38 contained within the "Wastewater Treatment Fund."

39

40 2. a. The department is authorized to expend funds for the
41 purpose of making a supplemental zero interest loan to the local
42 government unit listed below for the following wastewater treatment
43 system projects:

<u>Project No.</u>	<u>Local Government Unit</u>	<u>Estimated Allowable Project Cost</u>
881-01-1	Hawthorne Borough	\$300,000
	TOTAL	\$300,000

b. The loan authorized in this section shall be made for the difference between the allowable loan amount required by this project based upon low bid building costs or final building costs pursuant to section 6 of this act and the loan amount certified by the commissioner in State fiscal year 1995 and for increased allowable costs as defined and determined in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted by the department pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1985, c.329. The loan authorized in this section shall be made to the local government unit listed, up to the individual amount indicated and in the priority stated, to the extent sufficient funds are available, except as the project fails to meet the requirements of section 4 of this act.

c. The zero interest loan for the project authorized in this section shall have priority over projects listed in section 3 of this act.

3. The following wastewater treatment system projects shall be known and may be cited as the "State Fiscal Year 1998 Project Priority List":

<u>Project Number</u>	<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Estimated Allowable Project Cost</u>
437-07	New Brunswick City	\$ 1,450,000
958-02	Gloucester City	\$ 1,400,000
927-02	Hammonton Town	\$ 2,150,000
809-06	Atlantic County UA	\$ 1,500,000
518-03	Buena Borough MUA	\$ 950,000
818-04	Burlington County BCF	\$ 5,200,000
700-07	Northwest Bergen County UA	\$ 3,450,000
437-09	New Brunswick City	\$ 1,000,000
336-01	Camden City	\$ 800,000
640-05	Camden County MUA	\$ 2,700,000
667-01	Ventnor City	\$ 350,000
663-02	North Wildwood City	\$ 1,100,000

1	361-01	Roseland Borough	\$ 100,000
2	367-01	Merchantville Borough	\$ 650,000
3	437-10	New Brunswick City	\$ 2,750,000
4	433-09	Woodbridge Township	\$ 650,000
5	703-04	Florham Park SA	\$ 500,000
6	923-01	Hackensack City	\$ 1,400,000
7	706-03	Washington Borough	\$ 6,600,000
8	526-05	Harrison Township	\$ 300,000
9	498-01	Mine Hill Township	\$ 850,000
10	700-08	Northwest Bergen County UA	\$ 1,900,000
11	945-06	Old Bridge Township MUA	\$ 1,450,000
12	834-01	Nutley Township/Clifton City	\$ 3,950,000
13	921-03	Millville City	\$ 2,650,000
14	378-01	Bergenfield Borough	\$ 950,000
15	809-07	Atlantic County UA	\$ 3,750,000
16	706-04	Washington Borough	\$ 1,050,000
17	362-02	Harrison Township	\$ 1,250,000
18	665-01	Longport Borough	\$ 850,000
19	536-04	East Windsor Township	\$ 500,000
20	374-01	Cresskill Borough	\$ 250,000
21	901-03	Highlands Borough	\$ 650,000
22	504-03	Stanhope Borough	\$ 150,000
23		TOTAL	\$55,200,000

24

25 4. Any loan made by the Department of Environmental Protection
26 pursuant to this act shall be subject to the following requirements:

27 a. The commissioner has certified that the project is in compliance
28 with the provisions of P.L.1985, c.329 or P.L.1992, c.88 and any
29 rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto;

30 b. The loan amount shall not exceed 50% of the allowable project
31 cost of the wastewater treatment system;

32 c. The loan shall be repaid within a period not to exceed 23 years
33 of the making of the loan;

34 d. The loan shall be conditioned upon approval of a loan from the
35 New Jersey Wastewater Treatment Trust pursuant to P.L.1997, c.
36 (pending in the Legislature as Assembly Bill No.3020 of 1997 and
37 Senate Bill No. 2144 of 1997); except that this requirement shall not
38 apply to Project No. S340927-02 (Town of Hammonton), for which

1 a loan has been made by the trust pursuant to P.L.1992, c.37 for both
2 phases of this local government unit's wastewater treatment system
3 project;

4 e. The loan shall be subject to any other terms and conditions as
5 may be established by the commissioner and approved by the State
6 Treasurer, which may include, notwithstanding any other provision of
7 law to the contrary, subordination of a loan authorized in this act to
8 loans made by the trust pursuant to P.L.1997, c. (pending in the
9 Legislature as Assembly Bill No. 3020 of 1997 and Senate Bill No.
10 2144 of 1997) or to administrative fees payable to the trust pursuant
11 to subsection o. of section 5 of P.L.1985, c.334 (C.58:11B-5).

12

13 5. The priority list and authorization for the making of loans
14 pursuant to sections 2 and 3 of this act shall expire on July 1, 1998,
15 and any local government unit which has not executed and delivered
16 a loan agreement with the department for a loan authorized in this act
17 shall no longer be entitled to that loan.

18

19 6. The Commissioner of Environmental Protection is authorized to
20 reduce or increase the individual amount of loan funds made available
21 to local government units pursuant to sections 2 and 3 of this act
22 based upon low bid building costs or final building costs defined in and
23 determined in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the
24 commissioner pursuant to section 4 of P.L.1985, c.329, provided that
25 the total loan amount does not exceed the original loan amount.

26

27 7. The expenditure of the funds appropriated by this act is subject
28 to the provisions and conditions of P.L.1985, c.329 or P.L.1992, c.88
29 and any rules and regulations adopted by the commissioner pursuant
30 thereto.

31

32 8. The Department of Environmental Protection shall provide
33 general technical assistance to any local government unit requesting
34 assistance regarding wastewater treatment system project development
35 or applications for funds for a project.

36

37 9. a. Prior to repayment to the "Wastewater Treatment Fund"
38 pursuant to the provisions of section 16 of P.L.1985, c.329, and prior
39 to repayment to the "1992 Wastewater Treatment Fund" pursuant to
40 the provisions of section 28 of P.L.1992, c.88, repayments of loans
41 made pursuant to this act may be utilized by the New Jersey
42 Wastewater Treatment Trust established pursuant to P.L.1985, c.334
43 (C.58:11B-1 et seq.) under terms and conditions established by the
44 commissioner and trust, and approved by the State Treasurer, and
45 consistent with the provisions of P.L.1985, c.334 (C.58:11B-1 et
46 seq.) and federal tax law, to the extent necessary to secure repayment

1 of trust bonds issued to finance loans approved pursuant to P.L.1997,
2 c. (pending in the Legislature as Assembly Bill No. 3020 of 1997 and
3 Senate Bill No. 2144 of 1997), and to secure the administrative fees
4 payable to the trust pursuant to subsection o. of section 5 of
5 P.L.1985, c.334 (C.58:11B-5) by the local government units receiving
6 trust loans.

7 b. Prior to repayment to the "Wastewater Treatment Fund"
8 pursuant to the provisions of section 16 of P.L.1985, c.329 and prior
9 to repayment to the "1992 Wastewater Treatment Fund" pursuant to
10 the provisions of section 28 of P.L.1992, c.88, the trust is further
11 authorized to utilize repayments of loans made pursuant to P.L.1989,
12 c.189, P.L.1990, c.99, P.L.1991, c.325, P.L.1992, c.38, P.L.1993,
13 c.193, P.L.1994, c.106, P.L.1995, c.219 or P.L.1996, c.85, and
14 P.L.1997, c. (pending in the Legislature as Assembly Bill No. 3021
15 of 1997 and Senate Bill No. 2142 of 1997) to secure repayment of
16 trust bonds issued to finance loans approved pursuant to P.L.1995,
17 c.218, P.L.1996, c.87 or P.L.1997, c. (pending in the Legislature as
18 Assembly Bill No. 3020 of 1997 and Senate Bill No. 2144 of 1997),
19 and to secure the administrative fees payable to the trust under these
20 loans pursuant to subsection o. of section 5 of P.L.1985, c.334
21 (C.58:11B-5).

22 c. To the extent that any loan repayment sums are used to satisfy
23 trust bond repayment or administrative fee payment deficiencies, the
24 trust shall repay such sums to the department for deposit into the
25 "Wastewater Treatment Fund" or the "1992 Wastewater Treatment
26 Fund," as appropriate, from amounts received by or on behalf of the
27 trust from local government units causing any such deficiency.

28

29 10. The Commissioner of Environmental Protection is authorized
30 to enter into a capitalization grant agreement as may be required
31 pursuant to the Federal Act.

32

33 11. a. The Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting in
34 the Department of the Treasury is directed to transfer to the
35 "Wastewater Treatment Fund" the entire sum of money, if any,
36 appropriated to the Department of Environmental Protection for
37 "Public Wastewater Facilities" in the "State Aid" section of P.L.1997,
38 c. (the fiscal year 1998 appropriations act now before the Legislature
39 as Senate Bill No. of 1997). The sum transferred to the
40 "Wastewater Treatment Fund" pursuant to this section is appropriated
41 to the New Jersey Wastewater Treatment Trust established pursuant
42 to P.L.1985, c.334 (C.58:11B-1 et seq.). The trust shall deposit all or
43 a portion of this sum as it may deem necessary and appropriate into
44 one or more reserve funds established pursuant to section 11 of
45 P.L.1985, c.334 (C.58:11B-11). These reserve funds shall include
46 reserve funds constituted collectively as a water pollution control

1 revolving fund for the purposes of the Federal Act and shall be known
2 as the Trust Reserve Fund - State Revolving Fund Accounts; except
3 that the trust shall not establish the Trust Reserve Fund - State
4 Revolving Fund Accounts prior to the execution of a capitalization
5 grant agreement entered into by the Commissioner of Environmental
6 Protection pursuant to section 10 of this act.

7 b. Any portion of the sum appropriated to the trust pursuant to
8 subsection a. of this section or subsection a. of section 11 of
9 P.L.1989, c.189, subsection a. of section 11 of P.L.1990, c.99,
10 subsection a. of section 11 of P.L.1991, c.325, subsection a. of
11 section 11 of P.L.1992, c.38, subsection a. of section 11 of P.L.1993,
12 c.193, subsection a. of section 11 of P.L.1994, c.106, subsection a.
13 of P.L.1995, c.219 or subsection a. of section 11 of P.L.1996, c.85,
14 plus any net earnings received from the investment or deposit of such
15 moneys by the trust not required by the trust to establish reserve funds
16 as provided in this section, shall be returned to the "Wastewater
17 Treatment Fund" and placed in any account therein as determined by
18 the commissioner to be used by the department for making zero
19 interest loans to local government units to finance a portion of the cost
20 of the wastewater treatment system projects listed in sections 2 and 3
21 of this act up to the individual amounts indicated and in the priority
22 stated, except as any such amount may be reduced by the
23 commissioner pursuant to section 6 of this act or if a project fails to
24 meet the requirements of section 4 of this act; and except that the
25 commissioner shall certify to the chairman of the trust that such funds
26 are needed for zero interest loans before any transfer is made. In the
27 event that the commissioner fails to make this certification, the
28 unexpended balance not devoted to establishing reserve funds shall
29 remain with the trust but shall not be expended by the trust until such
30 expenditure is authorized pursuant to P.L.1985, c.334 (C.58:11B-1 et
31 seq.).

32
33 12. There is appropriated to the New Jersey Wastewater Treatment
34 Trust established pursuant to P.L.1985, c.334 (C.58:11B-1 et seq.)
35 from repayments of loans deposited in any account, including the State
36 Revolving Fund Accounts contained within the "Wastewater
37 Treatment Fund" or the "1992 Wastewater Treatment Fund," and from
38 any net earnings received from the investment and reinvestment of
39 such deposits, such sums as the chairman of the trust shall certify to
40 the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to be necessary and
41 appropriate for deposit into one or more reserve funds established by
42 the trust pursuant to section 11 of P.L.1985, c.334 (C.58:11B-11);
43 except that the certification shall not be made with respect to the State
44 Revolving Fund Accounts prior to the execution of a capitalization
45 grant agreement entered into by the commissioner pursuant to section
46 10 of this act.

1 13. This act shall take effect immediately.

2
3
4 STATEMENT

5
6 This bill would appropriate certain federal and State moneys to the
7 Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for the purpose of
8 implementing the 1997 New Jersey Wastewater Treatment Financing
9 Program, which is expected to finance approximately \$111 million in
10 wastewater treatment system projects for State Fiscal Year 1998.

11 Specifically, the bill would appropriate to the DEP moneys from
12 (1) the "Wastewater Treatment Fund - State Revolving Fund
13 Accounts" established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1988, c.133 an
14 amount equal to the Federal Fiscal Year 1997 capitalization grant
15 made available to the State pursuant to the federal "Water Quality Act
16 of 1987" for wastewater treatment system projects; (2) any fees and
17 penalties received pursuant to the federal "Marine Protection,
18 Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972," as may be deposited in the
19 State Revolving Fund Accounts; (3) the unappropriated balances from
20 the "Wastewater Treatment Fund" established pursuant to section 15
21 of the "Wastewater Treatment Bond Act of 1985," (P.L.1985, c.329);
22 and (4) the sum of \$10,000,000 from the "1992 Wastewater Treatment
23 Fund" established pursuant to section 27 of the "Green Acres, Clean
24 Water, Farmland and Historic Preservation Bond Act of 1992,"
25 (P.L.1992, c.88).

26 The DEP would use the funds appropriated under this bill to make
27 zero interest loans to local governments for up to 50% of eligible
28 project costs for wastewater treatment system projects included in the
29 "State Fiscal Year 1998 Project Priority List" and to provide a
30 supplemental zero interest loan to a local government that received a
31 loan in past years. The supplemental loan constitutes the difference
32 between the allowable loan amounts required by the project and the
33 loan amounts certified by the Commissioner of DEP in State FY 1995
34 under the New Jersey Wastewater Treatment Financing Program.

35 A companion bill, Assembly Bill No.3020 of 1997 and Senate Bill
36 No. 2144 of 1997, would authorize the New Jersey Wastewater
37 Treatment Trust to provide approximately \$300,000 in a supplemental
38 loan for an existing project and approximately \$53 million for loans to
39 local governments identified on the priority list for the remaining
40 allowable project costs.

41 New wastewater treatment system projects that are eligible for
42 financing in calendar year 1997 have allowable costs totaling
43 approximately \$110.4 million, while previously financed projects that
44 are eligible to receive supplemental loans under the State Fiscal Year
45 1998 Program total approximately \$.6 million.

46 The New Jersey Wastewater Treatment Financing Program is the

1 primary source available for either federal or State funding to assist
2 eligible local governments to finance necessary wastewater treatment
3 (sewer) system upgrades. In 1985, the Legislature established the New
4 Jersey Wastewater Treatment Trust, a State financing authority
5 established pursuant to P.L.1985, c.334 (C.58:11B-1 et seq.), as the
6 keystone of a financing mechanism for funding the rehabilitation and
7 construction of wastewater treatment facilities.

8 The New Jersey Wastewater Treatment Financing Program
9 comprises two complementary elements: the proceeds of State general
10 obligation bonds and federal capitalization grants administered by the
11 DEP, and the revenue bonds issued by the Trust. The federal grant
12 moneys are made available from the federal Environmental Protection
13 Agency (EPA) under the State Revolving Loan Fund Program
14 established pursuant to the federal "Water Quality Act of 1987" (33
15 U.S.C.§1251 et seq.). Additional federal moneys are available from
16 any fees and penalties received pursuant to the federal "Marine
17 Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972," (33 U.S.C.§1401
18 et seq.).

19 To qualify for receipt of federal moneys under the "Water Quality
20 Act of 1987," a state must establish a revolving loan fund and provide
21 an annual 20 percent State-match to those moneys. All federal moneys
22 received by the State for wastewater treatment system project
23 financing are deposited in the "Wastewater Treatment Fund," a
24 revolving loan fund established pursuant to the \$190 million
25 "Wastewater Treatment Bond Act of 1985," P.L.1985, c.329 and
26 administered by the DEP. In past years, the State has met the match
27 requirement entirely through conventional General Fund
28 appropriations or from a combination of a General Fund appropriation
29 and by pledging loan repayment moneys from previous project loans
30 made from the "Wastewater Treatment Bond Act of 1985." The 20%
31 match for State Fiscal Year 1998 is expected to be provided entirely
32 from loan repayments of older wastewater treatment system projects
33 funded from the "Wastewater Treatment Bond Act of 1985" during the
34 late 1980's.

35 Section 6 a. of the 1985 bond act allocated \$150 million to the DEP
36 for zero interest loans to local governments for wastewater treatment
37 system projects. Section 6 b. allocated \$40 million to the Trust to
38 establish a reserve account for loans made by the Trust, and a
39 guarantee account to secure debt issued by local governments in
40 connection with the financing of a project. In 1987, the Legislature
41 enacted P.L.1987, c.198, which appropriated the \$40 million to the
42 Trust for these purposes.

43 Moneys in the "Wastewater Treatment Fund" provide zero interest
44 loans to local governments for up to 50% of eligible project costs for
45 wastewater treatment system projects included on the project priority
46 list. The Trust revenue bonds provide moneys for low interest (at or

1 below market-rate) loans to local governments for the remaining
2 portion of allowable project costs. By matching the loans made by the
3 DEP, the Trust nearly doubles the amount of money available for
4 wastewater treatment system projects. Since the combined money is
5 provided at half the typical market interest rate, the New Jersey
6 Wastewater Treatment Financing Program reduces the costs to a local
7 government that must be passed on to the project's users. By funding
8 its wastewater treatment system project through the Program, a local
9 government should realize an average savings of 30% on the financing
10 of the total eligible cost of the project over what it would cost that
11 local government to secure its own financing.

12 On November 3, 1992 the voters approved the \$345 million "Green
13 Acres, Clean Water, Farmland and Historic Preservation Bond Act of
14 1992," P.L.1992, c.88. Section 12 of the 1992 bond act allocated \$50
15 million for the financing of wastewater treatment system projects, in
16 order to bring such systems into full compliance with permits issued
17 pursuant to the "Water Pollution Control Act", P.L.1977, c.74
18 (C.58:10A-1 et seq.), to provide adequate wastewater treatment in
19 areas where large numbers of septic systems have malfunctioned or
20 become obsolete, or to connect an obsolete or malfunctioning
21 wastewater treatment system to another wastewater treatment system.

22 Section 12 b. of the 1992 bond act allocated \$45 million to the DEP
23 for zero interest loans to local governments for wastewater treatment
24 system projects. Section 12 c. allocated \$5 million to the Trust to be
25 used for reserve and guarantee funding to secure debt issued by the
26 Trust or by local governments in connection with the financing of
27 wastewater treatment system projects.

28 A local government seeking financial assistance for a wastewater
29 treatment system project must apply for a loan from each State
30 agency.

31 P.L.1985, c.334 requires that the DEP develop a project priority list
32 for funding by the Trust in conformance with the applicable provisions
33 of federal law.

34 Under federal law, a Federal Priority List must be developed by the
35 DEP and approved each year by the EPA. The list ranks projects based
36 upon existing water quality conditions and anticipated impacts on
37 existing and potential water uses. All local governments listed or
38 eligible for listing on the project priority list are required to advise the
39 DEP whether they will pursue their own funding source, or exercise
40 their option to apply for loans from the State. Those local
41 governments opting for State financial assistance are ranked in
42 accordance with the priority system and placed on the State funding
43 list. These projects are placed in the same rank order as they are found
44 on the Federal Priority List.

45 The New Jersey Wastewater Treatment Financing Program has
46 completed ten annual financing cycles and financed more than \$1.3

1 billion of wastewater treatment system projects throughout the State.
2 Between 1987 and 1996 the DEP and the Trust have utilized moneys
3 from the following sources: federal capitalization grants made
4 available under the federal "Water Quality Act of 1987," State loans
5 from the moneys made available under the "Wastewater Treatment
6 Bond Act of 1985," State General Fund appropriations, loan
7 repayments, and the unexpended balances of leftover or "de-obligated"
8 loan moneys from project loans made in prior years. The EPA has
9 made ten federal capitalization grants to New Jersey totaling
10 approximately \$651 million since the Program's inception.

11 Under this bill, in conjunction with Assembly Bill No. 3020 of 1997
12 and Senate Bill No. 2144 of 1997, the New Jersey Wastewater
13 Treatment Financing Program for 1997 would finance approximately
14 \$110 million in wastewater treatment system projects. A new
15 component of the Program introduced in 1995 permits local
16 governments sponsoring wastewater treatment system projects
17 partially funded from the "Pinelands Infrastructure Trust Fund"
18 established pursuant to the "Pinelands Infrastructure Trust Bond Act
19 of 1985," P.L.1985, c.302, to receive a Trust loan for the balance of
20 allowable project costs. However, there are no Pinelands area projects
21 scheduled to be financed in State Fiscal Year 1998.

22 New wastewater treatment system projects eligible for financing
23 under this bill and Assembly Bill No. 3020 of 1997 and Senate Bill No.
24 2144 of 1997 have total allowable costs of approximately \$110 million,
25 while a previously financed project is eligible to receive supplemental
26 loans totaling \$600,000.

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31 Appropriates funds to DEP for wastewater treatment system projects.