

SJR 45 -- STORM WATER CONTROL GRANTS AND LOANS

Upon voter approval, this proposed constitutional amendment changes the laws regarding the issuance of grants and loans to the City of St. Louis and any first classification county by the Department of Natural Resources for storm water control. In its main provisions, the amendment:

- (1) Requires water and sewer districts to be public in order to receive grants and loans from the department for storm water control projects;
- (2) Removes the \$20 million limit on annual appropriations to the Stormwater Control Fund;
- (3) Allows the department to issue either a grant or a loan and removes the mandatory ratio of 50% for grants and 50% for loans for storm water control projects;
- (4) Removes the requirement that department grants be limited to 50% of the cost of a storm water control project;
- (5) Allows the department to make an initial offer of grants and loans and later distribute any remaining funds resulting from the decline of initial offers to water and sewer districts requesting additional funding; and
- (6) Requires repayments of storm water loans and interest to be deposited into a fund to finance storm water control plans, studies, and projects. Unexpended balances are not subject to biennial transfer to the General Revenue Fund, and the storm water fund will retain any earned interest.