

SB

32

AMENDMENT

OFFERED IN THE SENATE
TO: SB 32

BY SENATOR THERRIault

1 Page 1, line 1:

2 Delete "regulated"

3

4 Page 2, line 17, following "if":

5 Insert "(1)"

6

7 Page 2, line 18, following "AS 42.05":

8 Insert "; or

9 (2) the utility is owned and operated by a political subdivision of the
10 state that is a municipality"

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Senate Bill 32 Sponsor Statement

Senate Bill 36 was introduced to correct a problem that manifested itself when the sale of the Fairbanks Municipal Water System unintentionally disenfranchised all Fairbanks water utility consumers.

The State of Alaska provides a water system grant program specifically to keep water utility rates affordable. The program is authorized through AS 46.03.030, and available funds are accessed through grant applications. However, because of changing patterns of ownership, not all state regulated public utilities under the RCA (Regulatory Commission of Alaska) are now eligible for these state grants.

The Fairbanks water utility became ineligible to apply for these grants when it was sold to a private entity. SB 32 amends current law to accommodate the growing trend of publicly regulated, privately owned utility systems while remaining consistent with the laws original intent of keeping safe water affordable to the public.

With the changes to AS 46.03.030 made in SB 32, all public utilities subject to the burdens and associated costs imposed by state RCA regulations will now be eligible to apply for the grants as currently established under AS 46.03.030.

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