COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Council File 22-0178
Tenant Utility Bills / Third-Party Billing Agencies / Landlords / Ratio Utility Billing System (RUBS) / Transparent Process Implementation

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1 comment

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Jenelle Velazquez • November 12, 2026 at 9:14 PM

As a tenant in Los Angeles, I call on the Los Angeles City Council to vote to ban Ratio Utility Billing Systems, or RUBS, in all housing across this city.

Landlords who charge tenants for utilities through RUBS are systematically violating the Rent Stabilization Ordinance and the Tenant Protection Act.

Ratio Utility Billing Systems subject tenants to bogus charges and allow landlords to get away with fraud. Imagine paying a costly bill for something you didn't actually use. That, essentially, is the failure that is RUBS.

RUBS also poses challenges to consumer protections, dissuades landlords from investing in environmentally-friendly infrastructure or making basic repairs to address waste, and allows landlords to put huge junk fees and other costly fees on our utility bills. This needs to end now.

Tenants have the right to transparency, but existing law gives us no way to enforce that right.

I urge you to support Debt Collective's proposal for stronger action by the City Council on RUBS.