

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: 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. Because of this billing system, it's causing me to move out of my dream apartment. I simply can't keep up with high rent and ridiculous utility bills. I understand and okay with paying utilities for my OWN usage yet we are paying for the property defects. Water leaks , pipes bursting . Just seems predatory and unjust . Also why am I paying for the apartments hvac (amenities)? This should be part of the high rent . 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.