

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 07/28/2026 03:47 PM

Council File No: 22-0178

Comments for Public Posting: As a tenant organizer 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.

Communication from Public

Name: Amanda Segura

Date Submitted: 07/28/2026 04:03 PM

Council File No: 22-0178

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. At my rent stabilized apartment, my neighbors and I unfairly pay for a monthly third party fee on top of the fact that our utilities are billed based on a formula rather than our actual usage. 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.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 07/28/2026 07:10 PM

Council File No: 22-0178

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. 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.

Communication from Public

Name: Melinda McKee
Date Submitted: 07/28/2026 07:37 PM
Council File No: 22-0178

Comments for Public Posting: As a lifelong resident and tenant in Los Angeles, I call on the Los Angeles City Council to vote to BAN Ratio Utility Billing Systems (RUBS) completely. Landlords who charge tenants for utilities through RUBS are systematically violating the Rent Stabilization Ordinance and the Tenant Protection Act. I co-run a non-profit organization, and every dollar counts. With these bills, I am not able to budget in any way. One month, my bill is \$160, the next it's upwards of \$300. No matter how much I try to save energy and water by using candles and taking 5-minute showers, my bill can still skyrocket. Even if I am away from home for weeks, I can come home to a bill that is higher than ever. 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 add huge junk fees and other costly charges to 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. No matter how many times I have asked how charges are calculated, my landlord refers me to Conservice. Conservice representatives don't answer me for months and months. Finally, after 6 months of me asking again and again, Conservice emailed me a sample bill with no clear way to understand what that means in regard to MY bill. I urge you to support Debt Collective's proposal for stronger action by the City Council on RUBS.

Communication from Public

Name: Angie J

Date Submitted: 07/28/2026 07:57 PM

Council File No: 22-0178

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. 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.

Communication from Public

Name: SarahLynn Plueger

Date Submitted: 07/28/2026 08:31 PM

Council File No: 22-0178

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. Stating that RUBs encourages “conservation” is a lazy way of saying that they just want to maintain the profit that they are potentially stealing from tenants by evading transparency. 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. I personally have done the following to lower what I thought was my actual utility bill, but is instead an unknown average of what the building uses. Which I do not believe is an honest average. - started showering at my local gym - when I do shower in my building it’s less than 10 minutes no matter what - go to my family’s house for a few days at a time to cut out utility usage for those periods (which does nothing, and that isn’t fair.) - been incredibly meticulous with lights, unplugging appliances, rewearing the same clothes to do laundry less frequently 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. There are more of us tenants than there are landlords. Many of us have paid horrendous and falsified costs for years, thinking nothing could be done. But we constitute the people of Los Angeles that you are here to serve and we deserve just and transparent billing for one of our most indispensable needs, housing. I urge you to support Debt Collective’s proposal for stronger action by the City Council on RUBS.