Utility Data Access Act HB3312

Illinois Clean Jobs Coalition

A legislative solution to help building owners access their own utility data to better measure their energy use and identify opportunities for improvement to save money on utility bills.

THE PROBLEM:

Limited Data Access Limits Compliance, Funding, and Efficiency

Building owners face systemic problems in accessing their whole-building utility data, undermining their ability to benchmark their building's energy use. Without this data, building owners cannot comply with local energy benchmarking policies and risk missing out on billions in rebates, grants and federal tax incentives for energy efficiency upgrades, making it harder to manage their assets, respond to investors, reduce energy costs, cut emissions, and enhance property values.

THE OPPORTUNITY:

The Need for Commonsense, Widely Supported Reform

More than 70 U.S. utilities across the nation already provide whole-building data - including ComEd - proving this is feasible and beneficial. However, the lack of clear rules and processes make it difficult and costly to access this data, making legislation necessary to standardize access across all energy providers. Consistent requirements will help ensure standardization and longevity of solutions.

THE SOLUTION: The Utility Data Access Act

Illinois can solve this problem by passing HB3312, a straightforward and necessary fix to create a standard, secure framework for utilities to provide whole-building energy data. HB3312 would:

- Require utilities to retain and deliver aggregated energy data to building owners while ensuring tenant privacy.
- Enable building owners to reduce energy costs, making properties more affordable and resilient.
- Ensure owners can easily benchmark energy use, comply with local policies, and access financial incentives for energy efficiency upgrades.
- Reduce burdens on owners, who must currently request utility data from multiple tenants, a cumbersome and error-prone process.
- Help utilities better understand energy demand, supporting efficiency programs and grid management.