



Shaping Tomorrow's Global Built Environment Today

M. Dennis Knight
2024-2025 ASHRAE President

Whole Building Systems, LLC
921 Pitt St.
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464
Phone: (843)437-3647
Email: dknight@wholebuildingsystems.com

April 9, 2025

The Honorable Larry Walsh
Chair
Public Utilities Committee
Illinois House of Representatives

Re: House Bill 3312, "Utility Data Access Act"

Dear Chair Walsh:

ASHRAE, founded in 1894, is a global society advancing human well-being through sustainable technology for the built environment. The Society and its more than 55,000 members, including over 1,500 members in Illinois, focus on building systems, energy efficiency, indoor air quality, refrigeration and sustainability. Through research, standards writing, publishing, certification and continuing education, ASHRAE shapes tomorrow's global built environment today.

ASHRAE supports the goals of this legislation, which would require utilities to retain building energy consumption data and provide aggregated energy usage data when requested by building owners. These requirements would help ensure that building owners and operators have timely access to the necessary building energy data to comply with any energy benchmarking or reporting requirements in their jurisdiction.

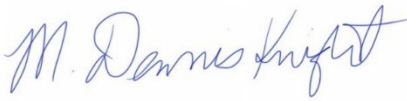
Improving the energy performance of existing buildings requires a robust database of building energy data. Without understanding a building's true performance, identifying effective ways to improve energy efficiency is challenging. As the saying goes, "you can't manage what you don't measure." **Ensuring that building owners have access to energy data is essential to their efforts to increase energy efficiency and reduce costs.**

ASHRAE develops standards, guidance and educational resources informed by robust data on the actual energy performance of buildings, and shares evidence-based best practices and technical information with professionals across the building sector. ASHRAE's tools and resources that can assist with building energy tracking and reporting include:

- ASHRAE Standard 105, *Standard Methods of Determining, Expressing, and Comparing Building Energy Performance and Greenhouse Gas Emissions*, provides a method for determining and comparing building energy performance and greenhouse gas emissions.
- ASHRAE Standard 214, *Standard for Determining and Expressing Building Energy Performance in a Rating Program*, provides uniformity in the building energy labeling and disclosure process.
- Additionally, ASHRAE certification programs, such as Building Commissioning Professional (BCxP) and Building Energy Assessment Professional (BEAP), are used frequently by local jurisdictions to designate who is qualified to perform benchmarking and energy assessments.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or have your staff email GovAffairs@ashrae.org. Thank you for the work you are doing to protect the health and well-being of building occupants in Illinois.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "M. Dennis Knight". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "M." and last name "Knight" clearly visible.

M. Dennis Knight
2024-2025 ASHRAE President