

CREATE AIR POLLUTION TRANSPARENCY IN ILLINOIS

SUPPORT SB 838 - WAREHOUSE POLLUTION INSIGHTS ACT



HOW SB 838 WILL PROVIDE A VIABLE PATH TO CLEANER AIR:

- Require warehouses and truck-attracting facilities to register with Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA), track emissions, and annually report information on ownership, transportation infrastructure, employees, truck trips, size, and more
- Expand IEPA monitoring efforts including annual truck counting, co-location of monitors with impacted communities, and support and capacity for analysis, grants, and outreach for community organizations.
- Direct beneficial electrification planning to prioritize overburdened communities using expanded health and equity insight methods.
- Ensure new facilities will be ready for zero-emission vehicles with on-site solar, battery storage, and managed charging.

We can lead by example by establishing rules of transparency for truck attracting facilities, expanding and diversifying monitoring methods, using resulting data to identify communities where the highest concentrations of harmful pollutants occur, and developing solutions in lockstep with impacted communities to reduce health inequities throughout Illinois.

Despite the rapid growth of warehouses and polluting trucks that follow, Illinois residents, much less lawmakers, and regulators have **no way to assess the impact of truck attracting facilities across the state**. There is no public registry of warehouses and the network of air pollution monitors has shrunk over the last two decades, meaning **overburdened communities may get left behind on investments for zero-pollution vehicle technology**. Costly, yet incomplete private real estate databases indicate massive leased warehouse growth – 33% in the last decade and 72% in the last two decades – with 2 million Illinois residents now living within a half mile of a leased mega-warehouse that’s at least 100,000 square feet.

Protect our public health with the Warehouse Pollution Insights Act:

- Air pollution from medium- and heavy-duty diesel trucks is a leading cause of disease in communities across Illinois, including childhood asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and stroke. PM2.5, one of the main pollutants from trucks, kills over 400 Illinoisans each year – the fifth highest PM2.5 mortality rate among all states.
- High truck traffic areas near warehouses, highways, and ports have the worst pollution levels, and because of historic and ongoing discrimination, the surrounding neighborhoods tend to be communities of color or low wealth. Across the state, communities of color live in the areas with the highest levels of truck-related pollution at a rate nearly double that of white residents.
- Warehouse locations are not publicly available, obscuring efforts to identify warehouse locations and quantify the impact these facilities and the trucks coming to and from them have on workers and local communities.
- Despite the 72% growth of leased warehouses over the last two decades, EPA-grade PM2.5 monitors across the state decreased from 38 to 34, and EPA-grade NO2 monitors have not increased. The outcome? Pollution can go undetected, and communities can’t quantify the pollution they know they are breathing.
- Solutions to monitor and mitigate pollution are more affordable and efficient than ever, and a robust set of information means Illinois can prioritize investments where they can do the most good.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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