



# Citizens Utility Board

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## **CUB TO SLASH BLOATED PHONE BILLS IN CRETE, CHICAGO HEIGHTS**

The Citizens Utility Board's "Right Call Campaign" is rolling into Crete and Chicago Heights for two phone-bill clinics in July to help consumers beat the bad economy by cutting their telephone costs by hundreds of dollars a year.

CUB's campaign was launched after the consumer group released a report showing that Illinois callers are overpaying by about \$1.5 billion a year. However, the report also said that most consumers can enjoy significant savings by following a few simple steps.

CUB's "phone-bill clinics" have been showing consumers across the state how to cut their local and long-distance bills by more than \$200 a year on average. The next clinics are co-hosted by state Rep. Anthony DeLuca, of Crete:

**9-11 a.m., 2-4 p.m. Friday, July 10**

Crete Township Meeting Room

1367 Wood St.

Crete

And

**9-11 a.m., 2-4 p.m., Friday, July 10**

Bloom Township Center

425 South Halsted St.

Chicago Heights

"Most people are paying too much for phone service," CUB Executive Director David Kolata said. "However, CUB can help consumers make deep cuts in their calling costs. We've been showing consumers how to save an average of about \$20 a month on their local and long-distance bills. Plus, we have a new online tool that has been teaching consumers how to slash cell-phone bills by a monthly average of about \$25 a month. You just can't get a free service like this anywhere else."

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Consumers frequently complain that they can't get reliable information from the phone company, which often just throws them a sales pitch for a more expensive plan. At CUB's clinics, however, citizens will receive helpful tips about:

\*The CUB Cellphone Saver, a state-of-the art online tool that automatically analyzes individual wireless bills. The Cellphone Saver has been showing consumers how to cut their cell-phone bills by an average of \$300 a year.

\*The CUB-designed Consumer's Choice local-calling plans that AT&T is forced to offer under a legal settlement. Unlike AT&T's other plans, these plans are designed to save most consumers money.

\*Illinois' best long-distance plans, including how to get an automatic \$20 credit CUB negotiated. That amounts to nearly 11 hours of free calls.

\*Line-Backer, a costly—and optional—AT&T service that most people don't need.

**Attendees should bring their phone bills so CUB experts can analyze them and give tips on how to cut them.**

CUB is Illinois' leading nonprofit utility watchdog organization. Created by the Illinois legislature, CUB opened its doors in 1984 to represent the interests of residential and small-business utility customers. Now celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, CUB has saved consumers more than \$10 billion by helping to block rate hikes and secure refunds over the years. CUB has been called the "gold standard" of consumer groups nationwide. For more information, call CUB's Consumer Hotline at **1-800-669-5556** or visit [www.CitizensUtilityBoard.org](http://www.CitizensUtilityBoard.org).

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