

This bill would facilitate transparency and accountability by:

- Requiring agencies that own or have access to video surveillance cameras to disclose to the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (1) the number of cameras they own or have access to, and (2) their privacy regulations, if they have any.
- Requiring the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority to post this information on its website.

**Why we need this bill:**

- This bill would begin the process of informing the public regarding the number and regulation of government video surveillance cameras in Illinois.
- Dozens of government agencies across Illinois have installed many thousands of video surveillance cameras.
- Very little information about these cameras has been released to the public.
- The number, integration, and technological sophistication of these cameras raises serious civil liberties and civil rights concerns, including possible invasion of privacy, chilling of free speech, voyeurism, and discriminatory targeting.
- These cameras often lack adequate safeguards to prevent such abuses.
- Government in Illinois has spent many tens of millions of dollars in these cameras.
- Information about the current number and regulation of cameras in Illinois would facilitate a public discussion regarding whether additional privacy regulations are needed.

This bill would not impose any significant cost or burden on government:

- The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority would create and post it on its website a form with two boxes (agency name and number of cameras); annually receive and post on its website the completed agency forms and privacy policies; and annually create and post on its website a list stating the number of cameras of each agency.
- Each agency with cameras would annually complete the form, and submit the completed form and any privacy policy to the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.
- These very modest duties would not require the hiring of new staff, the retention of outside experts, the purchase of new technology, the input or analysis of data, or the publication of a lengthy report. Rather, the bill promotes transparency and accountability in the leanest possible manner.