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Japan Introduces Legislation to Penalize Tech Giants for Exploiting Dominant Position

The Japanese government has unveiled a bill aimed at penalizing tech behemoths that stifle market competition.

Enterprises such as Apple and Google uphold commanding positions in smartphone operating systems and digital marketplaces, among other domains. Concerns have surfaced regarding the impediment these monopolies pose to the emergence of new ventures and the heightened expenses incurred by users of their services.

At a gathering of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party on Tuesday, authorities tabled a bill to fortify constraints against major players in the information technology sector.

As per the proposal, corporations will encounter limitations in segments encompassing smartphone operating systems, digital marketplaces, web browsers, and search engines.

Moreover, an inventory of prohibited conducts will be delineated, comprising actions such as barring other enterprises from accessing digital marketplaces and payment gateways, as well as imposing unjust practices on counterparties in commercial dealings.

Designated enterprises will be mandated to furnish annual reports on their adherence to the stipulations. Failure to comply will result in penalties amounting to 20% of their revenue generated within Japan, surpassing threefold the fines imposed for impeding third-party enterprises under the extant Antimonopoly Law. Persistent transgressors of unlawful practices will be subject to penalties equating to 30% of their Japanese sales.



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