

Approval of the Bill to Amend the Antimonopoly Act

June 3rd, 2009
Fair Trade Commission

The bill to amend the Act Concerning Prohibition of Private Monopolization and Maintenance of Fair Trade (Antimonopoly Act), which was submitted to the Diet on February 27th, 2009 in view of the necessity for a vigorous implementation of competition policy in order to realize fair and free economic society, passed the House of Councilors and was approved today. The amendatory act is scheduled to be promulgated on June 10th, 2009.

I. Deliberation at the Diet

The 171st Diet Session

The deliberation at the House of Representatives

Apr. 9 th , 2009	Explanation of the bill and discussion at the plenary meeting of the House of Representatives
Apr. 17 th	Explanation of the reason of submission of the bill at the Committee on Economy, Trade and Industry (CETI)
Apr. 22 th	Discussion at the CETI
Apr. 24 th	Hearing from academics and interested parties at the CETI Discussion at the CETI Vote at the CETI
Apr. 27 th	Vote at the plenary meeting of the House of Representatives

The deliberation at the House of Councilors

May.13 th	Explanation of the bill and discussion at the plenary meeting of the House of Councilors
May.26 th	Explanation of the reason of submission of the bill at the Committee on Economy, Trade and Industry (CETI) Discussion at the CETI
May.28 th	Hearing from academics and interested parties at the CETI

Jun. 2 nd	Discussion and vote at the CETI
Jun. 3 rd	Vote at the plenary meeting of the House of Councilors

II. Main Features of the Amendment to the Antimonopoly Act (See attachment)

- Expansion of types of conduct subject to surcharges to exclusionary type of private monopolization and certain types of unfair trade practices.
- Increase in maximum jail term for unreasonable restraint of trade
- Review of notification system on business combination

III. Date to become effective

The amendment shall be put into force on the day provided by the Cabinet order within one year after the date of promulgation (Some provisions shall be put into force beginning one month after the date of promulgation.).

. Others

The Government of Japan shall review the current hearing examination system in its entirety and carry out consideration within FY 2009. Based on the results of that consideration necessary measures will be taken.