

Singapore To Increase Data Breach Penalty Limit

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A company found guilty of a data breach can be fined up to **10% of its annual turnover in Singapore**, under a change in the law that protects personal data. The stiffer fine, however, will be imposed only on companies with an annual turnover that exceeds \$10 million. Currently, the maximum a company can be fined for a data breach is \$1 million.

...Other prospective **changes include making it mandatory for organisations to notify the Personal Data Protection Commission** of data breaches that are likely to harm the affected individuals.

...The Personal Data Protection (Amendment) Bill, which was among four Bills introduced in Parliament yesterday, **also allows organisations to collect, use or disclose personal data without the consent of individuals in circumstances classified as "legitimate interests"**. Such situations include using the data from security cameras or other Internet of Things devices to help in investigations or legal proceedings, or to recover/pay a debt.

Under the Bill, **consumers must also be allowed to opt out of having their personal data used by companies, such as e-commerce platforms Amazon and Shopee, to recommend specified items.**