

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**KCC BEGINS FACT-FINDING EXAMINATIONS OF APP MARKET OPERATORS REGARDING POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS OF PROHIBITED ACTS IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUSINESS ACT**

*- Will investigate possible violations of prohibited acts such as forcing specific payment methods -*

The Korea Communications Commission (KCC, Chairman Han Sang-hyuk) announced that starting May 17, it will begin a fact-finding examination of app market operators like Google, Apple and One Store on possible violations of prohibited acts in the Telecommunications Business Act.

On April 8, the KCC received a report from the Korean Publishers Association that Google’s amended payment policy unfairly forced specific payment methods. The KCC met with stakeholders to hear various opinions on the matter.

This fact-finding examination will not be limited to the content of the report, but will encompass the app market operators’ implementation of the amended Telecommunications Business Act and the possibility of violations of prohibited acts.

The KCC announced that if it discovers violations through the fact-finding examination, it will begin a fact-finding investigation and take strict measures. Any app development companies or other stakeholders who have been wronged in the process of using the app market are asked to file reports with the Center to Report Harm from Unfair Practices by App Markets (https://kcc.go.kr/user.do), newly created on and offline on April 13.

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The Korea Communications Commission