

# Update Privacy



**Bill to amend the Dutch Personal Data Protection Act**

**10 February 2009**

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A long-awaited bill to amend the Dutch Personal Data Protection Act (*Wet bescherming persoonsgegevens*) ("PDPA") has recently been submitted to the lower chamber of the Dutch parliament (the *Tweede Kamer*). The aim of the bill is to reduce the costs and administrative burden of compliance with the PDPA and to rectify a number of technical legislative errors. In addition, a few other changes are proposed. Although this bill represents an improvement in a number of respects, it is nevertheless something of a disappointment. This is because it does not solve all of the practical problems in the PDPA and, in fact, appears to give rise to an increased burden with regard to some points.

Amendments to the Exemption Decree (*Vrijstellingsbesluit*) under the PDPA are expected soon. This decree - which specifies the cases in which there is an exemption to the requirement to notify the processing of personal data to the Dutch Data Protection Authority (*College Bescherming Persoonsgegevens*) - will be expanded and clarified. In addition, a new Code of Conduct on the Processing of Personal data by Financial Institutions (*Gedragscode Verwerking Persoonsgegevens Financiële Instellingen*) is expected in the short.

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## **Contact**

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For the Netherlands:  
[Jacqueline van Essen](#)  
T: +31 20 71 71 714

For Belgium:  
[Liesbeth Weynants](#)  
T: +32 2 566 84 54

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