

## Quota Requirement Overturned

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In 2018, Jerry Brown, then California governor, signed a bill requiring corporate boards to include a high percentage of women.

Now a Los Angeles County Superior Court judge has determined that the state failed to show that “gender-based classification was necessary to boost California’s economy, improve opportunities for women in the

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workplace, and protect California taxpayers, public employees, pensions and retirees.”

No news yet on whether the state will appeal.

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“It’s high time corporate boards include the people



who constitute more than half the ‘persons’ in America,” he bumbled in his signing message.

Fines for disobedience were to be steep: \$100,000 for initial violations, \$300,000 for subsequent violations.

Of course, it is neither immoral nor a crime to choose a man instead of a woman for a post. Making specific hires criminal depending upon the complexion of a business’s *other* hires amounts to the politicization of everything, swapping the goals of business for the goals of ideologues. It is destructive of individual rights and the requirements of conducting business profitably to compel employers choosing personnel to be guided by any considerations other than relevant qualifications. Or by any assessment but their own.

Managers of all non-government organizations should be free to use their own best judgment in hiring and contracting, whether the work involved is that of clerk, CEO, or board member.

This is Common Sense. I’m Paul Jacob.