
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

News Review

Boards must have women – California law

BBC World Service

The story

California's requirement that companies listed on the stock market have at least one woman on their board was fought hard by business lobby groups. Well, now the law has passed, they are not happy - and warn it could be difficult to implement.

Almost 100 big firms which have got their headquarters in California have no women at all in their boardroom and they've now got three years to make the appointments - or face fines of up to \$300,000.

Vocabulary

ponders

considers; thinks about something carefully

- He often ponders his future.
- I have been pondering over which colour to paint my house.

it's high time

it's overdue; it should have happened already

- It's high time we had a smoking ban.
- When are you two going to get married? It's high time you did!

raise their hands

volunteer; express desire to become involved in something

- Several people raised their hands when the boss emailed to ask for a volunteer.
- Thank you for raising your hand and taking control of the project.

Language challenge

Our workers come from all over the world. We are a _____ company.

- a) inverse
- b) converse
- c) diverse

Answer
c) diverse