

Divided House passes Trump’s megabill

Measure would boost funding for defense and border security, revamp tax code and renew 2017 tax cuts.

By MICHAEL WILNER

WASHINGTON — Landmark legislation that would rewrite the tax code and levy steep cuts to programs providing healthcare and food stamps to the poor passed the House early Thursday, a development that was celebrated by President Trump despite the bill facing an uncertain future among Senate Republicans.

The measure, titled the “One Big Beautiful Bill Act,” would boost funding for border security and the Defense Department, eliminate taxes on tips and overtime, provide a new tax deduction to seniors and renew the 2017 tax cuts passed during the first Trump administration. To pay for those new funding commitments, the bill proposes eliminating green energy tax benefits passed under President Biden, as well as an estimated \$1 trillion in cuts to Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

Even still, the bill would add so much money to the debt that Congress may be forced to execute cuts across the board, including hundreds of billions to Medicare, in a process known as sequestration, according to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office.

The House vote fell along party lines. By opposing the bill, the Trump administration said that Democrats were supporting the largest tax increase on middle-class Americans in decades, a reference to the upcoming expiration of Trump’s 2017 tax cuts at the end of the year.

Democrats, on the other hand, have accused Republicans of voting for the deepest cuts to healthcare in modern times. By creating new barriers to Medicaid coverage through the introduction of work requirements, they said.

[See Bill, A6]

Education Dept. layoffs blocked

Federal judge rejects executive order and instructs agency to reinstate over 2,000 employees. **NATION, A5**

State’s dirtiest beaches unveiled

Heal the Bay releases its annual report card. Santa Monica Pier makes the dubious list again. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Vuitton bets big on Rodeo Drive

Gehry-designed store on site of rejected hotel would anchor north end of the famed retail corridor. **BUSINESS, A9**

Weather
Sunny afternoon.
L.A. Basin: 78/60. **B6**

Markets **A10**
Opinion Voices **A11**

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KELVIN KUO Los Angeles Times

PLANE CRASH IN SAN DIEGO

Investigators look at a charred house after a small private jet crashed into a San Diego neighborhood Thursday, killing at least three onboard, scorching several homes and forcing evacuations. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Split Supreme Court blocks first religious charter school

Oklahoma argued its constitution did not allow for such state funding

By DAVID G. SAVAGE

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court dealt an unexpected blow Thursday to the conservative drive for religious charter schools, with the justices splitting 4-4 and unable to rule in a case from Oklahoma that had the effect of blocking a proposed new Catholic charter school.

If upheld, it would have been the nation’s first tax-funded, church-run charter school. In recent years, charter schools have proved popular with parents in major cities and in rural areas, and their numbers would surely have grown if

churches or religious groups were free to operate these schools.

The Supreme Court has six conservatives, all of whom were raised as Catholics. And Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. has written opinions ruling it was unconstitutional to exclude churches from sponsoring a

program of vouchers or tuition subsidies for children attending private schools.

Religious-liberty advocates appealed to the Supreme Court last year arguing that it was also unconstitutional to exclude churches from sponsoring a [See Charter, A6]

Edison’s rate hike plan draws anger

Utility is seeking a 10% increase for its costs. ‘We paid in our suffering,’ says an Eaton fire survivor.

By CAROLINE PETROW-COHEN

As Southern California Edison faces scrutiny over the role its equipment may have played in sparking the deadly Eaton fire, the utility giant is facing some push-

back from ratepayers over plans to seek another increase in electricity rates.

The California Public Utilities Commission is expected to make a decision this summer on Edison’s request to raise rates by 10% in order to pay for wildfire mitigation and cover “reasonable costs of its operations, facilities [and] infrastructure,” the request filing said.

If approved, the rate hike would mean an \$18 average increase in monthly electrical bills for Edison’s 15 million customers.

Although Edison filed its

rate request before the fires, the timing doesn’t sit well with some Edison customers, especially for survivors of the Eaton fire that destroyed swaths of Altadena during a series of historical Southern California wildfires in January.

The Eaton fire killed at least 18 people and burned more than 14,000 acres. The cause of the blaze has not been determined, but the company has acknowledged that it may have been sparked by a faulty dormant power line operated by Edison.

“There’s definitely a great deal of resentment and anger,” said Eaton fire survivor Rossana Valverde, who lived 300 yards from the Edison transmission tower where the fire may have begun.

Valverde’s home is still standing, but she says it sustained heavy smoke damage and is filled with high levels of arsenic, asbestos and other harmful toxins from the fire.

“I think Edison has a tremendous amount of nerve to ask for more money [See Edison, A10]

STATE RULE ON GAS-ONLY CARS IS REVOKED

The Senate voted to nullify California’s plan to ban the sale of new vehicles that run only on fossil fuels.

By TONY BRISCOE

The Republican-controlled U.S. Senate defied congressional norms and voted Thursday to revoke California’s progressive vehicle emission standards, including a rule that would’ve effectively banned the sale of new gasoline-only cars by 2035.

In a 51-44 vote, the Senate overturned a Biden-era waiver that enabled California and a contingent of Democratic-led states to enforce zero-emission requirements for the sale of new passenger vehicles. After several hours of debate and testimony, legislators struck down a landmark regulation that aimed to drastically accelerate electric vehicle sales in California and nearly a dozen other states that chose to follow its lead, substantially reducing air pollution and planet-warming carbon emissions from tailpipes.

The Advanced Clean Cars II rule, enacted in 2022 by the California Air Resources Board and granted a federal waiver by the Biden administration’s Environmental Protection Agency in December 2024, required car manufacturers to sell an increasing percentage of zero-emission or plug-in hybrid vehicles to California dealerships over the next decade. Starting next year, the rule would have mandated that 35% of all new vehicles supplied to California dealerships be zero-emission vehicles or plug-in hybrids. By 2035, it would’ve prohibited the sale of new, gas-only cars statewide.

By invalidating the rule, Republican senators stamped out one of California’s most ambitious environmental policies and, more broadly, challenged the state’s authority to enact vehicle standards to combat its notoriously unhealthy air quality. If the measure is signed into law by President [See Cars, A12]

She’s only 11 — and she’s wrapped up community college



GINA FERRAZZI Los Angeles Times

CRAFTON Hills College will present Alisa Perales her associate degrees Friday.

Alisa Perales is among youngest graduates in California history

By ANDREW J. CAMPA

Sandra Ruiz thought nothing of it when a man and his 8-year-old daughter walked into her intro to computer science course.

After all, working parents were nothing new at Crafton Hills College in Yucaipa.

“I thought, ‘Here comes a dad — the student — and his daughter,’” the veteran assistant professor said. “I thought he was in need of a babysitter.”

Imagine her surprise when it turned out she had it backward.

Right before class began, Rafael Perales departed — leaving his daughter, Alisa, to begin her second semester of college.

“It was my first time I had ever had a student so young,” said Ruiz, who taught Alisa for two semesters and served as her programming coach. “It turned out she was quite an amazing student who brought a level of focus and creativity that made her stand out as much as her age.”

Far from just standing out because of her youth, Alisa proved to be a standout student. Over 2½ years at the college, she posted a 3.8 GPA.

Now 11, she graduates Friday with associate degrees in multiple sciences and mathematics. She is the school’s youngest graduate and among the youngest in [See Wunderkind, A7]



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