

# NEWSOM: STATE IS UNDER SIEGE BY TRUMP

California is cast as a defensive warrior in governor's State of the State address.

By MELODY GUTIERREZ

SACRAMENTO — Gov. Gavin Newsom used his written State of the State address Tuesday to cast California as a bulwark against a menacing Trump administration he accused of dismantling public services, flouting the rule of law and using extortion to bully businesses and universities.

The remarks came as Newsom's national profile has grown and given him a broader political stage, even as he skipped the literal one — opting to send his speech to lawmakers in writing rather than deliver it from the Assembly rostrum in the state Capitol, which is customary. His address painted a portrait of a state under siege by the federal government even as it grapples with the aftermath of the devastating Los Angeles County fires, spiraling housing costs and an uneven economic recovery.

While he framed Trump and his allies as the chief obstacle to progress, he leaned on familiar themes of California's resilience, pointing to disaster response, investments in schools and clean energy, and the state's economic staying power. He said as California celebrates the 175th anniversary of statehood, "the state of the state is strong, fully committed to defending democracy, and resolved to never bend."

"It would be a mistake to [See Newsom, A14]



DAVID BUTOW For The Times

## VOICES OF DISSENT IN L.A.

Mayor Karen Bass, at a news conference Monday, is among those condemning the ruling. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

# California's vaccine law at risk?

Five states have laws banning religious exemptions to school shots. Trump administration is moving to expand parents' right to opt out.

By JENNY GOLD

A series of federal actions aimed at pressuring states to allow parents to opt out of school vaccine mandates for religious or personal reasons threatens to undermine California's ironclad ban on such exemptions.

California is one of just five states that bans any nonmedical exemptions, the result of a landmark 2015 law passed in the wake of the Disneyland measles outbreak. Connecticut, New York, Maine, and West Virginia have similar statutes.

The law is credited with bringing California's rate of kindergartners vaccinated against the measles to 96.1% in the 2024-25 school year, up from 92.6% in 2014-15, even as the national rate declined. California is one

## Forgoing their shots

Percentage of California kindergartners with a nonmedical vaccine exemption during the school year. Such opt-outs were banned in the state in 2016:

■ 2013-14	3.1
■ 2014-15	2.5
■ 2015-16	2.4
■ 2016-17	0.6

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

of just 10 states with a kindergarten measles vaccination rate that exceeds the 95% threshold experts say is needed to achieve herd immunity.

If vaccine mandates are weakened, "we're going to have more out-

breaks, and schools are going to be less safe for the families who have children who are vulnerable," said Dr. Eric Ball, a pediatrician in Orange County and chairman of the American Academy of Pediatrics California.

Key actions to allow for vaccine exemptions include:

■ Legislation introduced in Congress last month would withhold federal education funding from states without religious exemptions.

■ A letter from the Department of Health and Human Services threatened to withhold federal vaccine funding from states that have any form of religious freedom or personal conscience laws but do not allow exemptions to vaccines. The move is "part of a larger effort by HHS to strengthen enforcement of laws pro-

[See Vaccination, A14]

# Critics upbraid court on ethnicity decision

Outrage follows ruling to allow immigration agents to stop people based in part on race.

By DAVID G. SAVAGE,  
MICHAEL WILNER  
AND ANDREA CASTILLO

WASHINGTON — Fifty years ago, the Supreme Court ruled unanimously that U.S. Border Patrol agents violated the Constitution when they stopped a car on a freeway near San Clemente because its occupants appeared to be "of Mexican ancestry."

The 4th Amendment protects Americans from unreasonable searches, the justices said then, and a motorist's "Mexican appearance" does not justify stopping them to ask about their immigration status.

But the court sounded a decidedly different note on Monday when it ruled for the Trump administration and cleared the way for stopping and questioning Latinos who may be here illegally. By a 6-3 vote, the justices set aside a Los Angeles judge's temporary restraining order that barred agents from stopping people based in part on their race or apparent ethnicity.

"Apparent ethnicity alone cannot furnish reasonable suspicion," said Justice Brett M. Kavanaugh. "However, it can be a relevant factor when considered along with other salient factors."

Critics of the ruling said it had opened the door for authorizing racial and ethnic bias.

[See Race, A7]

# Netanyahu takes war on Hamas to Qatar

Strike is part of pledge to avenge the militant group's Oct. 7 attack, Israeli leader says.

By NABIH BULOS

BEIRUT — Israel launched what Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called a "surgical, precision strike" on Hamas' political leadership Tuesday in the Qatari capital, Doha, killing six people in a barrage Qatari authorities condemned as a "cowardly Israeli attack."

The attack came as Israel is ramping up for a full invasion of Gaza City, warning residents to evacuate ahead of a ground operation even as it continues in stalled negotiations with Hamas militants.

In a televised address, Netanyahu said the attack was part of Israel's vow to hunt down perpetrators of the Hamas-led Oct. 7, 2023, attack in southern Israel.

"Today, Israel and I kept that promise," he said. "The days are over when terror leaders can enjoy immunity."

Hamas, in a statement, said all of its negotiating team — which was meeting to discuss the latest ceasefire proposal from President Trump — survived, but that five members of the militant group were killed, along with a Qatari security officer. The attack, Hamas said, "confirms beyond doubt that Netanyahu and his government do not want to reach [See Mideast, A4]



UGC

**THE STRIKE** in Qatar on Tuesday killed six people, including Hamas members.

# Games click with movie studios

Hollywood needs a replacement for superheroes to win over younger viewers.

By SAMANTHA MASUNAGA

For years, Hollywood relied on a steady stream of comic book adaptations to power the box office and draw audiences in.

But as superheroes have faltered, studios are scrambling to figure out what's next. Is it video games?

That's the bet several studios — including the newly re-capitalized Paramount — are making, particularly because games have a built-in fanbase and appeal to younger audiences.

With Paramount and Santa Monica-based video game publisher Activision's recent deal to adapt "Call of



Paramount Pictures / Sega; Universal Pictures / Nintendo

**SONIC** the Hedgehog, top, and Mario have hit video games and films.

Duty" for the big screen, new media mogul David Ellison is looking to capture the zeal of its die-hard fans along with the interest of those who've never heard of the first-person-shooter game.

"Call of Duty" joins a long list of video game adaptations, particularly in the last few years, when gaming properties including "The Last of Us," "Twisted Metal," "Minecraft" and "Super Mario Bros." have all hit screens.

"It's going to be just another avenue of source material, the same way comic books were," said Roy Lee, producer of several video game adaptations, including "A Minecraft Movie," "Until Dawn" and the upcoming reboot of "Resident Evil." "It's going to be considered more viable than it has been in the past."

Recently, film adaptations of video games have [See Video games, A11]

# ICE raid at Hyundai rattles Asian execs

Immigration arrests at Georgia site cool enthusiasm about investing in U.S.

By MAX KIM AND  
NILESH CHRISTOPHER

SEOUL — The immigration raid that snatched up hundreds of South Koreans last week sent a disconcerting message to companies in South Korea and elsewhere: America wants your investment, but don't expect special treatment.

Images of employees being shackled and detained like criminals have outraged many South Koreans. The fallout is already being felt in delays to some big investment projects, auto industry executives and analysts said. Some predicted that it could also make some companies think twice about investing in the U.S. at all.

"Companies cannot afford to not be more cautious about investing in the U.S. in the future," said Lee Hogue, an auto industry ex-

pert at Daeduk University, "In the long run, especially if things get worse, this could make car companies turn away from the U.S. market and more toward other places like Latin America, Europe or the Middle East."

The raid last week, in which more than 300 South Korean nationals were detained, targeted a factory site in Ellabell, Ga., owned by HL-GA Battery Co., a joint venture between Hyundai and South Korean battery maker LG Energy Solutions to supply batteries for electric vehicles. The Georgia factory also is expected to supply batteries for Kia, which is part of the Hyundai Motor Group. Kia has spent hundreds of millions of dollars on its factory in West Point, Ga.

"This situation highlights the competing policy priorities of the Trump administration and has many in Asia scratching their heads, asking, 'Which is more important to America? Immigration raids or attracting high-quality foreign investment?'" said Tami [See Reaction, A8]

## Schiff challenges Trump accusations

The senator's attorney says there is "no factual basis" to claims of mortgage fraud. **NATION, A6**

## State targets pet dealer websites

Lawmakers OK a ban on online marketplaces used by puppy mills and brokers. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

**Weather**  
Areas of morning fog. L.A. Basin: 80/64. **B6**

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## Tough role for next union chief

Sean Astin faces off with Chuck Slavin in this week's SAG-AFTRA election. **BUSINESS, A9**

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