

UA declines to sign Trump compact

Will ‘compete on merit’ for federal funding

PRERANA SANNAPPANAVAR
Arizona Daily Star

The University of Arizona “has not agreed to the terms” in the Trump administration compact, UA President Suresh Garimella said Monday, saying academic freedom, merit-based research funding and institutional independence

must be preserved. “A federal research funding system based on anything other than merit would weaken the world’s preeminent engine for innovation, advancement of technology, and solutions to many of our nation’s most profound challenges. We seek no special treatment and believe in our ability to compete for federally funded research strictly on merit,” Garimella wrote Monday to U.S. Education Secretary Linda McMahon.

The proposed compact, previously rejected by six of the nine universities initially invited to sign it, ties priority access to federal money to committing to a long list of Trump administration goals. “We have much common ground with the ideas your administration is advancing on changes that would benefit American higher education and our nation at large,” Garimella told McMahon. In an email to the UA community Monday afternoon, Garimella wrote: “A

number of the proposed federal recommendations deserve thoughtful consideration as our national higher education system could benefit from reforms that have been much too slow to develop. In fact, many of the proposed ideas are already in place at the U of A.

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■ **INSIDE:** Read more in Tim Steller’s column, **PAGE B1**

Many will lose if ACA subsidies expire



Jorge and Celia Monreal pose for a photo Oct. 8 in the entryway of their home in Tyler, Texas. **TONY GUTIERREZ, ASSOCIATED PRESS**

ALI SWENSON AND KENDRIA LAFLEUR
Associated Press

TYLER, Texas — Celia Monreal worries every day about the cartilage loss in her husband’s knees. Not just because it’s hard for her to see him in pain but also because she knows soon their health care costs could skyrocket.

Monreal, 47, and her husband, Jorge, 57, rely on the Affordable Care Act marketplace for health coverage. If their tax credits expire at the end of the year, their fully subsidized plan will increase in cost, putting it out of reach. Without insurance, they won’t be able to afford his expected knee replacement surgeries — which will force him to take time off his job filling concrete — and other issues, like her chronic high blood pressure and his high cholesterol.

On their already tight \$45,000 joint annual income, budgeting for themselves and their five children will become that much harder.

“It worries me sometimes, because if you’re not healthy, then you’re not here for your kids,” Monreal said. “It’s a difficult decision, because, OK, do I spend \$500 on a doctor’s visit or do I buy groceries?”

The enhanced premium tax credits that made coverage more affordable for low- and middle-income enrollees for the last four years will expire this year if Congress



Pages from the U.S. Affordable Care Act health insurance website healthcare.gov are seen Aug. 19 on a computer screen in New York.

doesn’t extend them. On average, that will more than double what subsidized enrollees currently pay for premiums next year, according to an analysis by health care research nonprofit KFF.

The tax credits are at the heart of the federal government shutdown that is in its third week. Democrats demand the subsidies be extended in a funding deal, while Republicans say they’ll only negotiate on the issue once the government is funded. With Congress deadlocked and the

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Vance in Israel to shore up Gaza ceasefire

MELANIE LIDMAN AND SAMY MAGDY
Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel — U.S. Vice President JD Vance arrived in Israel on Tuesday to shore up the fragile U.S.-brokered ceasefire in Gaza, following a burst of deadly violence and questions over how to move forward with the plan for long-term peace.

Vance was meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and other top officials and is expected to stay in the region until Thursday. His visit follows Monday’s arrival of White House envoys Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner, President Donald Trump’s son in law. Vance met with them upon landing.

Vance is also expected to meet with families of hostages whose bodies are still held in Gaza and some of the living hostages released last week under the ceasefire. Earlier on Tuesday, Witkoff and Kushner met with nine of them.

The ceasefire took effect on Oct. 10. While it has been tested by fighting on Sunday and mutual accusations of violations, both Israel and Hamas have said they are committed to the deal. Trump has made clear he wants it to succeed.

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Study: Feeding babies peanuts early helps kids avoid allergies

JONEL ALECCIA
Associated Press

A decade after a landmark study proved that feeding peanut products to young babies could prevent development of life-threatening allergies, new research finds the change has made a big difference in the real world.

About 60,000 children have avoided developing peanut allergies after guidance first issued in 2015 upended medical practice by recommending introducing the allergen to infants starting as early as 4 months.

“That’s a remarkable thing, right?” said Dr. David Hill, an allergist and researcher at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, and author of a study published Monday in the medical journal *Pediatrics*. Hill and colleagues analyzed electronic health records from dozens of pediatric practices to track diagnoses of food allergies in young children before, during and after the guidelines were issued.

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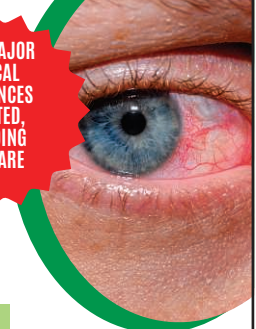


Dr. Zuraida Zainalabidin
OPTOMETRIST & DRY EYE SPECIALIST

“Dr. Zuraida Zainalabidin is H2T’s lead optometrist. She earned her undergraduate degree in Psychology from the University of Michigan and, during her final year, acted as an Optometry Tech at the national optometry chain, Lenscrafters. After finding her interest in optometry, she completed required scientific courses at DePaul University in Chicago and then undertook her four-year optometry college course work at Illinois College of Optometry. Upon graduation, she continued working with Lenscrafters as an optometrist in Chicago. Originally from Malaysia, she migrated to Arizona for warmth and a more relaxed atmosphere.”



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