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High court considers birthright citizenship

President in attendance as justices seem poised to reject restrictions

By Mark Sherman
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court seemed poised Wednesday to reject President Donald Trump's restrictions on birthright citizenship in a momentous case that was magnified by his unparalleled presence in the courtroom.

Conservative and liberal justices questioned whether Trump's order declaring that children born to parents who are in the United States illegally or temporarily are not American citizens comports with either the Constitution or federal law.

Arguments lasted more than two hours in a crowded courtroom that included not only Trump, the first sitting president to attend arguments at the nation's highest court, but also Attorney General Pam Bondi and Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick, and in seats reserved for the justices' guests, actor Robert De Niro.

The case frames another test of Trump's assertions of executive power that defy long-standing precedent for a court with a conservative majority and a robust view of presidential power, which has largely ruled in the Republican president's favor. In the notable exceptions when the court has not, Trump has responded with starkly personal criticisms of the justices. A definitive ruling is expected
Citizenship continues on A9

Dem hopefuls flash differences

Candidates vying to succeed Pelosi square off in debate for seat that's open for first time in decades

The top three Democratic candidates vying to succeed Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi in Congress share broad agreement on most issues, but an hourlong debate Tuesday highlighted the differences that may decide the race.

San Francisco Supervisor Connie Chan, former congressional aide Saikat Chakrabarti and state Sen. Scott Wiener differ on how they'd approach the job, which is up for grabs for the first time in decades.

Chakrabarti, who was chief of staff to Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, isn't just running for Congress, the wealthy former tech company engineer said he's running as part of a

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movement — candidates aiming to replace establishment Democrats with more progressive candidates intent on changing the system.

He sees himself as part of a wave of Democrats that is the culmination of a movement that started with the 2016 presidential run of Vermont independent Sen. Bernie Sanders. Chakrabarti worked on Sanders' presidential campaign that year before running Ocasio-Cortez's campaign that upset a top Democrat. He later served briefly as her chief of

staff and helped write the Green New Deal environmental legislation.

"We don't have a Democratic Party that fights," Chakrabarti said, "and yes, I'm running to change the Democratic Party and that's going to ruffle some feathers. So if you want someone who's going to get along, to go along, then I'm not your guy. But if you want someone who's going to go there and change the party, that's what I'm offering."

Wiener touted legislation he has spearheaded to make it easier to build housing and to regulate ICE as a sign of someone who could build coalitions to pass progressive legislation. He
Debate continues on A8

Scott Wiener, from left, Connie Chan and Saikat Chakrabarti debate for San Francisco's Congressional District 11 seat on Tuesday at the Sydney Goldstein Theater in San Francisco. The seat became available upon the announced retirement of Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi.

Biggest Sausalito housing project is filed

By J.K. Dineen
STAFF WRITER

Some four months after Sausalito voters passed a plan to allow taller and denser buildings on about 16 acres along a commercial strip north of downtown, a developer has filed a preliminary appli-

cation to build what would be the seaside town's largest residential complex.

Bayspring Development Partners has submitted a pre-application for a 294-unit residential community at 1 Harbor Drive, across from Mollie Stone's along Sausalito's

Bridgeway corridor.

The proposal, which represents a direct implementation of Measure J, the multi-site housing overlay approved by Sausalito voters in November 2025 with more than 75% of the vote, calls for a six-story building to replace an existing office building.

The adjacent office building at 3 Harbor Drive would remain. Of the 294 rental units, 46 of them would be set aside for very low-, low- and moderate-income households.

While development has traditionally faced strong opposition in Sausalito,
Project continues on A8

UC Berkeley to promise 2 years of student housing

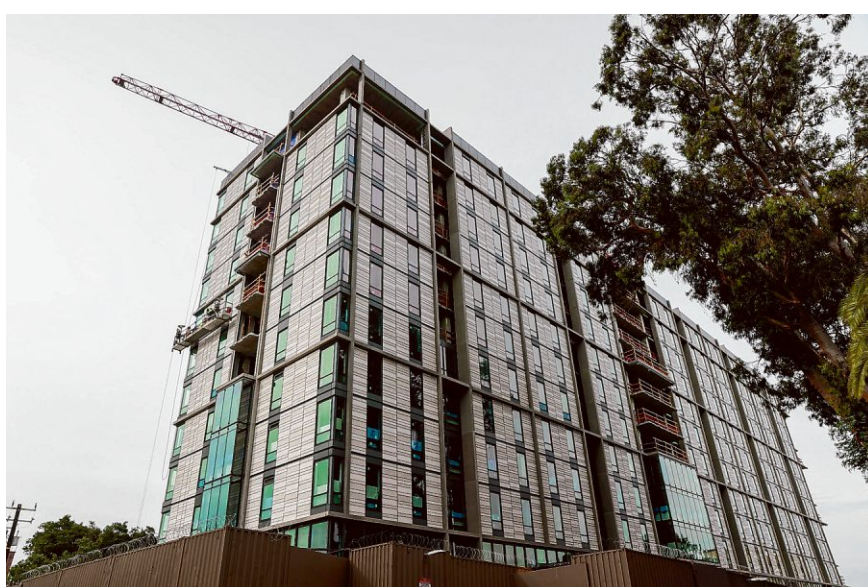
By Sam Whiting
STAFF WRITER

UC Berkeley will guarantee two years of on-campus housing to all freshmen, starting with the class entering this fall, campus housing officials say — marking a major step for a university that has long struggled to house its students.

Just a decade ago, UC Berkeley had the worst housing availability among the nine UC undergraduate campuses, with beds for just 22% of its undergrads compared to a 38% average systemwide, officials said. A wave of new dorm and apartment construction is helping close that gap.

One of those projects, an 11-story, 1,100-bed apartment style complex on the once-embattled site of People's Park, will open in fall 2027, helping increase the university's housing capacity from 29% currently to 33% of its 33,000 undergrads and allowing it to expand its housing guarantee beyond first-year students to include returning sophomores. Transfer students will be guaranteed one year of housing, mostly in a separate complex that opened in 2024.

The new housing will offer traditional dorm rooms with two-person occupancy and a meal plan, or university-owned
Housing continues on A8



Brontë Wittpenn/S.F. Chronicle

The 11-story Heumann House is under construction at the former People's Park site at UC Berkeley on Monday. It is expected to open in fall 2027, allowing guaranteed on-campus housing for both freshmen and sophomores.