

RENO OPPOSES CALIF. INITIATIVE

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Body

Attorney General Janet **Reno** expressed opposition yesterday to a California ballot **initiative** that would cut off social services to illegal immigrants, including schools and health care. She said the Justice Department would review the measure's constitutionality.

"It doesn't make sense to turn schoolteachers and nurses into Border Patrol agents," **Reno** said at her weekly news conference. "It doesn't make sense to kick kids out of school or not give them immunizations."

Reno previously had declined to comment on the controversial Nov. 8 ballot **initiative**. But she finally came out against it after President Clinton, Vice President Gore, and Immigration Commissioner Doris Meissner all expressed strong opposition.

Reno stopped short of saying the Justice Department would go to court against the **initiative** if the report determines it is unconstitutional and California voters approve it. "We will review the report and review the law and make a judgment at that time," she said.

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