

# **PRESIDENT CALLS DOLE DIVISIVE; GOP MISUSING AFFIRMATIVE ACTION, IMMIGRATION ISSUES, CLINTON SAYS**

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## **Body**

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President Clinton accused Bob Dole on Saturday of practicing "the old politics of division" on affirmative action and immigration.

"Here, at the end of the election, some people are tempted to take advantage of these issues for political (gain)," Clinton said.

Cruising into the final weekend still confident of victory, Clinton visited Texas, Louisiana and his home state of Arkansas.

He was stumping for Democratic congressional candidates in all three states.

Clinton devoted his weekly radio address and a rally at the Alamo in San Antonio, Tex. to rebutting Dole's call to end affirmative action and crack down on illegal immigration.

He also challenged GOP attacks on his administration's record on crime and welfare.

Last week Dole called affirmative action and immigration "wedge issues."

A Clinton spokesman said Dole's comments pitted Americans against Americans. Dole "publicly expressed his pride in dividing America, which is distasteful, at best," press secretary Mike McCurry said.

A Dole campaign spokesman said the Alamo remarks displayed "typical Clinton hypocritical flair," adding, "He'd rather scare us than justify his continued support of divisive (racial) quotas."

With the Alamo's walls forming a backdrop, Clinton declared, "When we come together in search of common ground, we are always, always stronger as a nation."

Clinton said that before he was elected in 1992, political divisiveness had rendered Congress incapable of acting on problems that frustrated many Americans. He claims to have struck "the common ground of politics" on crime, welfare, race relations and budget issues.

"Instead of bringing people together around common values, the old politics of division tried to drive wedges between us, to take advantage of our fears. We must never let that happen again," he said in his radio address.

By not mentioning Dole by name, Clinton hoped to appeal to voters weary of attacks leveled by both campaigns.

Yet the president didn't shy away from language that Republicans might consider divisive, accusing the GOP of endangering the environment, schools and the entire federal budget.

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CLINTON SAYS

**Clinton** was ending his day in Tampa, Fla., where he hoped to shore up his bid to win the normally Republican state. He planned Sunday events in West Palm Beach, Fla.; New Jersey; Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

**Clinton** is scheduled to return to Arkansas Tuesday to vote and await election returns.

## Graphic

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PHOTO; Photo From AP - Housing and urban Development Secretary Henry Cisneros, right, applauds the **president** of Mrs. **Clinton** at a rally Saturday at the Alamo in San Antonio, Tex., where Cisneros was once mayor.

## Classification

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**Company:** PALM BEACH HOTEL (51%); PALM BEACH HOTEL (51%)

**Person:** BILL **CLINTON** (79%)

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