



FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. _____

BY: 

1 Amend Floor Amendment No. ___ by Darby to S.B. No 3 by
2 adding the following ARTICLE to the bill and renumbering the
3 other ARTICLES of the bill accordingly:

4 ARTICLE III

5 SECTION 1. If the redistricting plan described by Article
6 II of this Act becomes unenforceable by order of a court as
7 violative of state or federal law or if the plan may not be
8 implemented because the plan has not been precleared as required
9 by Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, then the
10 legislature adopts the following principles and standards as the
11 policy of this state to guide a court or other entity in
12 devising any interim or permanent plan for the districts used to
13 elect members of the Texas House of Representatives:

14 (1) the requirements of Section 26, Article III, Texas
15 Constitution, regarding the maintaining of whole counties in the
16 apportionment of house districts shall yield to the requirements
17 of federal law, including the Voting Rights Act of 1965 or the
18 federal constitution;

19 (2) the house districts in total shall reflect the
20 ethnic diversity of this state;

21 (3) population deviations among house districts shall
22 be reduced to the extent practicable, including among multiple
23 house districts located entirely within a single county;

24 (4) communities of interest shall be kept whole
25 whenever possible;

26 (5) splitting of county voting precincts and of voting
27 blocs along racial lines shall be avoided whenever possible; and

28 (6) ethnic minority communities shall not be fragmented
29 in any circumstances when they can elect candidates of their
30 choice when retained in a single house district.