

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 60th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB453
Version:	CCR A
Request Number:	
Author:	Rep. Harris
Date:	5/21/2025
Impact:	Please see previous summary of this measure

Research Analysis

CCR A for SB 453 addresses three issues related to civil procedure.

Sections 1 through 8 creates the Oklahoma Expedited Actions Act to allows lawsuits with a monetary relief request of \$250,000 or less to use an expedited actions process that has set deadlines and limits as follows:

- 180 days for discovery;
- Up to 20 hours total to examine and cross-examine witnesses;
- Limit of 15 written requests for production;
- Limit of 15 written requests for admissions;
- Upon request, a trial date within 90 days after discovery period ends;
- Limit of two continuances that may not exceed a total of 60 days, and
- Limit of 8 hours per side to complete jury selection, opening statements, presentation of evidence, examination and cross-examination of witnesses, and closing arguments. This time can be extended to 12 hours per side with a motion and a showing of good cause by either party.

The court may also refer an expedited cases to an alternative dispute resolution process once. The process cannot exceed a half-day in duration, cost no more than the two -times the civil filing fees and must be completed within 60 days before the initial trial setting.

Section 9 of the bill changes the standard for the admissibility of expert testimony to align with the federal rules of evidence.

Section 10 raises the award cap for noneconomic losses for bodily injury claims from \$350,000 to \$500,000. For permanent and severe personal bodily injuries, there will be no cap. For a permanent mental injury that prevents the plaintiff from being employed or enjoying a reasonable standard of living, the is a \$1 million cap.

Prepared By: Quyen Do

Fiscal Analysis

The measure is currently under review and impact information will be completed.

Prepared By: House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.

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