

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 60th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB632
Version:	CCS
Request Number:	2163
Author:	Speaker Hilbert
Date:	5/28/2025
Impact:	Please see previous summary of this measure

Research Analysis

The conference committee substitute outlines the framework for the creation of two business court divisions headquartered in Oklahoma County and Tulsa County. The measure:

- Directs the Oklahoma Supreme Court and business court judges to promulgate rules for the implementation and administration of business courts;
- Authorizes business court judges to appoint a secretary-bailiff, law clerk and other personnel approved by the Chief Justice;
- Sets the salary for a business court judge at the same pay as an associate judge of the Supreme Court;
- Sets the term for business court judges at eight years;
- Outlines the qualifications to serve as a business court judge, which includes being at least 35 years of age, being a United States citizen and having at least 10 or more years of legal experience;
- Outlines the business court judge appointment process, which begins with the Speaker providing the Governor with a list of three candidates, the Governor choosing an appointee from the list, and the Senate confirming the appointment;
- Allows the Governor to reject the list of appointees from the Speaker and request a subsequent list. The list must be provided to the Governor within 40 days of the request or the Governor can appoint any person that meets the statutory qualifications to serve;
- Provides that an appointed business court judge will serve on an interim basis if the appointment is made when the Legislature is not in session;
- Requires the aforementioned appointment process to be used to fill vacancies;
- Outlines the authority and jurisdiction of business courts and lists the types of cases that can be added to a business court docket beginning January 1, 2026 as long as the claim amount is at least \$500,000;
- Allow a jury trial if claimed by a party within the time period established by court rules;
- Requires non-jury trials to be resolved within 12 months unless an extension is requested by the disputing parties; and
- Establishes a \$1500 filing fee for cases filed in business court.

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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