Bill Summary
1st Session of the 60th Legislature

Bill No.:	**SB 453**
Version:	**CCR**
Request No.:	**2150**
Author:	**Sen. Howard**
Date:	**05/21/2025**

Bill Analysis

SB 453 creates the Oklahoma Expedited Actions Act. The measure specifies that the expedited process provided for in the measure shall apply to a suit in which all claimants affirmatively plead they seek only monetary relief aggregating $250,000.00 or less, excluding interest or other punitive damages. The measure directs the court to remove a suit from the expedited actions process on a motion and a showing of good cause by any party or upon the filing of a pleading or an amended or supplemental pleading that seeks any relief other than the monetary relief. The measure specifies that discovery shall not exceed 180 days for expedited processes and specifies that parties shall have up to 20 hours total to examine and cross-examine witnesses. The measure limits requests for interrogatories, productions, and admissions to 15 written requests respectively. Upon request, the court shall set the case for a trial date that is within 90 days after the discovery period ends. The court may only continue the case twice, not to exceed 60 days. The measure establishes a limit of 8 hours per side to complete jury selection, opening statements, presentation of evidence, examination and cross-examination of witnesses, and closing arguments. The limit may be extended by 12 hours with a motion and a showing of good cause by either party. The court can refer an expedited cases to an alternative dispute resolution process once. The measure increases the award cap for noneconomic losses for bodily injury claims from $350,000.00 to $500,000.00. A $1 million cap is established for a permanent mental injury that prevents the plaintiff from being employed or enjoying a reasonable standard of living. The measure specifies that permanent and severe personal bodily injuries shall not have a cap.

CCR Changes

The Conference Committee Report for SB 453 completely substitutes engrossed language with the language described above.

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