HB1564 POLPCS1 Collin Duel-AO 2/4/2025 2:12:08 pm

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES State of Oklahoma

SPEAKER:

CHAIR:

I move to amend <u>HB1564</u> Of the printed Bill

Page Section Lines

Of the Engrossed Bill

By deleting the content of the entire measure, and by inserting in lieu thereof the following language: collin

AMEND TITLE TO CONFORM TO AMENDMENTS

Amendment submitted by: Collin Duel

Adopted: _____

Reading Clerk

| 1 | STATE OF OKLAHOMA | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 2 | 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025) | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | PROPOSED POLICY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 1564 By: Duel | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 8 | PROPOSED POLICY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | An Act relating to civil procedure; creating the Oklahoma Expedited Actions Act; providing for application of expedited actions process; providing for recovery; providing process for removal of case from expedited actions process; providing process for governing discovery; providing for trial setting; providing time limits for trial; providing definition; providing alternative dispute resolution; providing for challenging admissibility of expert testimony; providing for codification; and providing | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 14 | an effective date. | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 17 | BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18 | SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified | | | | | | | | | | |
| 19 | in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1775 of Title 12, unless there | | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 | is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows: | | | | | | | | | | |
| 21 | Section 1775 et seq. shall be known and may be cited as the | | | | | | | | | | |
| 22 | "Oklahoma Expedited Actions Act". | | | | | | | | | | |
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1 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified 2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1776 of Title 12, unless there 3 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The expedited actions process provided for in Section 1 of
this act applies to a suit in which all claimants, other than
counter-claimants, affirmatively plead that they seek only monetary
relief aggregating Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00)
or less, excluding interest, statutory or punitive damages and
penalties, and attorney fees and costs.

B. In no event may a party who prosecutes a suit under this act recover a judgment in excess of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00), excluding interest, statutory or punitive damages and penalties, and attorney fees and costs.

14 SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified 15 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1777 of Title 12, unless there 16 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. A court shall remove a suit from the expedited actions process:

19 1. On motion and a showing of good cause by any party; or
 20 2. If any claimant, other than a counter-claimant, files a
 21 pleading or an amended or supplemental pleading that seeks any
 22 relief other than the monetary relief allowed by Section 2 of this
 23 act.

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B. A pleading, amended pleading, or supplemental pleading that removes a suit from the expedited actions process may not be filed without leave of court unless it is filed before the earlier of thirty (30) days after the discovery period is closed or thirty (30) days before the date is set for trial. Leave to amend may be granted only if good cause for filing the pleading outweighs any prejudice to an opposing party.

8 C. If a suit is removed from the expedited actions process, the9 court shall reopen discovery.

10 SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified 11 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1778 of Title 12, unless there 12 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Every case that follows the expediated actions process shall be governed by the discovery control plan provided for in this Section. Discovery is subject to the limitations provided for in Section 3226 of Title 12 of the Oklahoma Statutes and to the following additional limitations:

In a suit not governed by Title 43 of the Oklahoma
 Statutes, all discovery must be conducted during the discovery
 period, which begins when the first initial disclosures are due and
 continues for one hundred eighty (180) days. In a suit governed by
 Title 43 of the Oklahoma Statutes, all discovery must be conducted
 during the discovery period, which begins when the suit is filed and

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continues until one hundred eighty (180) days after the first
 request for discovery of any kind is served on a party;

2. Each party may have no more than twenty (20) hours in total
4 to examine and cross-examine all witnesses in oral depositions. The
5 court may modify the deposition hours so that no party is given
6 unfair advantage;

Any party may serve on any other party no more than fifteen
(15) written interrogatories, excluding interrogatories asking a
party only to identify or authenticate specific documents. Each
discrete subpart of an interrogatory is considered a separate
interrogatory;

4. Any party may serve on any other party no more than fifteen
(15) written requests for production. Each discrete subpart of a
request for production is considered a separate request for
production; and

16 5. Any party may serve on any other party no more than fifteen 17 (15) written requests for admissions. Each discrete subpart of a 18 request for admission is considered a separate request for 19 admission.

B. If a suit is removed from the expedited actions process or,
in a divorce, the filing of a pleading renders this subdivision no
longer applicable, the discovery period reopens, and discovery must
be completed within the limitations provided in Section 3226 of
Title 12 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Any person previously deposed

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may be redeposed. On motion of any party, the court should continue
 the trial date if necessary to permit completion of discovery.

3 SECTION 5. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified 4 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1779 of Title 12, unless there 5 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

6 On any party's request, the court shall set the case for a trial 7 date that is within ninety (90) days after the discovery period 8 ends. The court may continue the case twice, not to exceed a total 9 of sixty (60) days.

10 SECTION 6. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified 11 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1780 of Title 12, unless there 12 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Each side is allowed no more than eight (8) hours to complete jury selection, opening statements, presentation of evidence, examination and cross-examination of witnesses, and closing arguments. On motion and a showing of good cause by any party, the court may extend the time limit to no more than twelve (12) hours per side.

B. The term "side" is not synonymous with "party", "litigant", or "person". Rather, "side" means one or more litigants who have common interests on the matters with which the jury is concerned.

22 C. Time spent on objections, bench conferences, bills of 23 exception, and challenges for cause to a juror are not included in 24 the time limit.

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SECTION 7. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1781 of Title 12, unless there
 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Unless the parties have agreed not to engage in alternative
dispute resolution, the court may refer the case to an alternative
dispute resolution procedure once, and the procedure shall:

7 1. Not exceed a half-day in duration, excluding scheduling 8 time;

9 2. Not exceed a total cost of twice the amount of applicable 10 civil filing fees; and

3. Be completed no later than sixty (60) days before the initial trial setting.

B. The court shall consider objections to the referral unlessprohibited by statute.

15 C. The parties may agree to engage in alternative dispute 16 resolution other than that provided for in subsection A of this 17 section.

SECTION 8. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1782 of Title 12, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

Unless requested by the party sponsoring the expert, a party may only challenge the admissibility of expert testimony as an objection to summary judgment evidence during a pretrial conference or during

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| 1 | the trial on the | merits. I | 'his | section | does 1 | not | apply | to | a r | notion | to |
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| 2 | strike for late d | esignation | 1. | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | SECTION 9. T | his act sh | all | become | effect | ive | Novemb | er | 1, | 2025. | |
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