
DIGEST

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HB 437 Reengrossed

2026 Regular Session

Melerine

Abstract: Provides relative to an expert witness' pecuniary interest in a case.

Proposed law (C.E. Art. 702(C)) provides that except in criminal, traffic, or juvenile **Abstract:** Provides relative to an expert witness' pecuniary interest in a case.

Proposed law (C.E. Art. 702(C)) provides that except in criminal court, traffic court, or juvenile proceedings, a witness with a pecuniary interest in the outcome of the case is prohibited from being qualified as an expert.

Proposed law (C.E. Art. 702(D)) defines "pecuniary interest".

Present law (C.C.P. Art. 1425(B)) provides that upon contradictory motion or on the court's own motion, an order may be entered requiring each party that has retained an expert witness to provide a written report prepared and signed by the witnesses.

Present law requires the parties, upon agreement, or if ordered by the court, to include certain provisions in the report.

Proposed law retains present law and adds the disclosure of past cases in which the witness held a pecuniary interest in the outcome of the case including the name of the case and the nature and value of the compensation.

(Amends C.C.P. Art. 1425(B); Adds C.E. Art. 702(C) and (D))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Civil Law and Procedure to the original bill:

1. Specify that proposed law does not apply to criminal, traffic, or juvenile proceedings.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Provide exceptions to the definition of "pecuniary interest".

2. Specify that pecuniary interest relates to a settlement or an award of damages.
3. Make technical changes.