
DIGEST

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Connick

HB No. 1158

Abstract: Requires district courts to set pretrial scheduling conferences to consider and resolve certain matters, and requires the court to set such conferences within 90 days of the filing of the motion by any party.

Present law authorizes a district court in any civil action to direct the attorneys for the parties to appear for pretrial conferences to consider various matters, including the status of discovery, pending issues, admissibility of evidence, and limitations on expert witnesses, in order to prepare the case for trial.

Proposed law requires the district court to set such conferences, and requires the court to set such conferences within 90 days of the filing of the motion by any party, even if discovery is outstanding, and provides that, if not previously set, the scheduling order shall set a new pretrial conference date, subsequent to the deadline for discovery, at which time the case shall be assigned for trial.

(Amends C.C.P. Art. 1551(A)(intro. para.), (B), and (C); Adds C.C.P. Art. 1551(D))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Changed the period for setting pretrial conference from 30 days to 90 days.
2. Added provision for the setting of a new pretrial conference subsequent to the deadline for completion of discovery.