

House Bill 937 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Ford of the 170th and O'Steen of the 169th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To authorize the assessment and collection of a technology fee by the Magistrate Court of
2 Berrien County; to identify the authorized uses of such technology fee; to provide for the
3 termination of such technology fee and dedication of residual funds; to provide for related
4 matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 (a) The clerk of the Magistrate Court of Berrien County is hereby authorized to charge and
8 collect a technology fee to be set by the chief magistrate in an amount not to exceed \$5.00
9 for the filing of each civil action with the court and not to exceed \$5.00 as a surcharge upon
10 each fine assessed by the court. Such technology fees shall be used exclusively to provide
11 for technological needs of the Magistrate Court of Berrien County. Such uses shall include
12 only the following:

- 13 (1) Computer hardware, software, and accessory purchases;
14 (2) Lease, maintenance, and installation of computer hardware;
15 (3) Purchase, lease, maintenance, and installation of imaging, scanning, facsimile,
16 communications, projection, and printing equipment and software; and

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17 (4) Procurement of services or equipment for the conversion of court records and
18 archives to digital content for public access.

19 (b) Funds collected pursuant to this section shall be maintained in a segregated account by
20 the clerk of the magistrate court and shall be used only for the purposes authorized in this
21 section.

22 (c) The authority to assess the technology fee pursuant to this Act shall terminate on
23 July 1, 2036, and any residual funds remaining in the account established by subsection (b)
24 of this section shall remain dedicated to general Berrien County technology uses.

25 **SECTION 2.**

26 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.