Senators Setzler of the 37th and Hufstetler of the 52nd offered the following substitute to HB 979:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

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

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

(a) The clerk of the Probate Court of Bartow County is hereby authorized to charge and collect a technology fee to be set by the judge of the probate court in an amount not to exceed $5.00 for the filing of each civil action with the court and not to exceed $5.00 as a surcharge on each fine paid. Such technology fees shall be used exclusively to provide for technological needs of the Probate Court of Bartow County. Such uses shall include only the following:

(1) Computer hardware and software purchases;

(2) Lease, maintenance, and installation of computer hardware;

(3) Purchase, lease, maintenance, and installation of imaging, imaging, scanning, facsimile, communications, projection, recording, and printing equipment and software; and

(4) Purchase of services and equipment for the conservation of court records and archiving the same to digital contents for public access.

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

(c) The authority to assess the technology fee pursuant to this Act shall terminate on July 1, 2029, and any residual funds remaining in the account established by subsection (b) of this section shall remain dedicated to general Bartow County technology uses.

SECTION 2.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.