

House Bill 623

By: Representatives Smith of the 18th, Huddleston of the 72nd, Howard of the 71st, and Smith of the 70th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To authorize the assessment and collection of a technology fee by the Probate Court of
2 Carroll 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 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 (a) The clerk of the Probate Court of Carroll County is hereby authorized to charge and
8 collect a technology fee to be set by the judge of the probate court in an amount not to
9 exceed \$10.00 for the filing of each civil action with the court. Such technology fees shall
10 be used exclusively to provide for technological needs of the Probate Court of Carroll
11 County. Such uses shall include only the following:

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

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16 (4) Purchase of local or remote technological support services and equipment which may
17 be used to connect to cellular radio systems, remote internet services, and any other
18 remote access system;

19 (5) Procurement of services and equipment for conserving court records and archiving
20 the same to digital contents for public access, including but not limited to software,
21 services, platforms, licensing and user fees for remote or cloud based storage platforms
22 and cybersecurity services and insurance; and

23 (6) Technology related training, including courses, certifications, and programs related
24 to any technology that is specifically utilized for the operation of the court.

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

28 (c) The authority to assess the technology fee pursuant to this Act shall terminate on
29 July 1, 2035, and any residual funds remaining in the account established by subsection (b)
30 of this section shall remain dedicated to general Carroll County technology uses.

31 **SECTION 2.**

32 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.