

House Bill 538 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representative Cheokas of the 151st

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To authorize the assessment and collection of a technology fee by the Probate Court of
2 Schley 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 Probate Court of Schley 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 \$5.00 for the filing of each civil action with the court and not to exceed \$5.00 as a
10 surcharge upon each fine assessed by the court. Such technology fees shall be used
11 exclusively to provide for technological needs of the Probate Court of Schley County. Such
12 uses shall include 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

17 (4) Procurement of services or equipment for the conversion of court records and archives
18 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 probate court, subject to audit by an auditor approved by the governing
21 authority of Schley County, and shall be used only for the purposes authorized in this section.

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

25 **SECTION 2.**

26 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.