

House Bill 701 (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 Terrell County; to authorize the assessment and collection of a technology fee when the
3 judge of such court is serving as the judge of the Magistrate Court of Terrell County; to
4 identify the authorized uses of such technology fee; to provide for the termination of such
5 technology fee and dedication of residual funds; to provide for related matters; to repeal
6 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 (a)(1) The clerk of the Probate Court of Terrell County is hereby authorized to charge
10 and collect a technology fee to be set by the judge of the probate court in an amount not
11 to exceed \$5.00 for the filing of each civil action with the probate court and not to
12 exceed \$5.00 as a surcharge upon each criminal fine assessed by the probate court.

13 (2) The clerk of the Probate Court of Terrell County is hereby authorized to charge and
14 collect a technology fee to be set by the judge of the probate court in an amount not to
15 exceed \$5.00 for the filing of each civil action with the magistrate court and not to
16 exceed \$5.00 as a surcharge upon each criminal fine assessed by the magistrate court.

H. B. 701

- 1 -

17 (3) The technology fees collected pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection
18 shall be used exclusively to provide for technological needs of the Probate Court of
19 Terrell County. Such uses shall include only the following:

20 (A) Computer hardware, software, and accessory purchases;

21 (B) Lease, maintenance, and installation of computer hardware and software;

22 (C) Purchase, lease, maintenance, and installation of audio-visual, imaging, scanning,
23 facsimile, communications, projection, and printing equipment and software; and

24 (D) Procurement of services or equipment for the conversion of court records and
25 archives to digital content for public access.

26 (b) Funds collected pursuant to this section shall be maintained in a segregated account by
27 the clerk of the probate court, subject to audit by an auditor approved by the governing
28 authority of Terrell County, and shall be used only for the purposes authorized in this section.

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

32 **SECTION 2.**

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