

House Bill 125 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Smith of the 138<sup>th</sup> and Smith of the 139<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To authorize the assessment and collection of a technology fee by the Probate Court of Harris  
2 County; to identify the authorized uses of such technology fee; to provide for the termination  
3 of such technology fee and dedication of residual funds to technology uses; to provide for  
4 related 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 Harris 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 or proceeding with the court and not to  
10 exceed \$5.00 as a surcharge upon each fine assessed by the court. Such technology fees shall  
11 be used exclusively to provide for technological needs of the Probate Court of Harris County.  
12 Such uses shall include only the following:  
13 (1) Computer hardware and software purchases;  
14 (2) Lease, maintenance, and installation of computer hardware and software;

15 (3) Purchase, lease, maintenance, and installation of audio-visual, imaging, scanning,  
16 facsimile, communications, recording, projection, and printing equipment and software;  
17 and

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

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

23 (c) The authority to assess a technology fee pursuant to this section shall terminate on  
24 July 1, 2033, and any residual funds remaining in the fund established by this section shall  
25 remain dedicated to general Harris County technology uses.

26 **SECTION 2.**

27 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.