

House Bill 1298 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives LaHood of the 175th, Burchett of the 176th, and Williams of the 148th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To authorize the assessment and collection of a technology fee by the Probate Court of
2 Brooks 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 technology uses; to
4 provide for 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 Brooks 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. Such technology fees shall be
10 used exclusively to provide for technological needs of the Probate Court of Brooks County.

11 Such uses shall include only the following:

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

17 (4) Procurement of services and equipment for the conservation of court records and
18 archiving the same to digital contents 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 and shall be used only for the purposes authorized in this
21 section.

22 (c) The authority to assess the technology fee pursuant to this Act shall terminate on
23 July 1, 2034, and any residual funds remaining in the account established by subsection (b)
24 of this section shall remain dedicated to general Brooks County technology uses at the
25 discretion of the Brooks County Board of Commissioners.

26 **SECTION 2.**

27 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.