

House Bill 770 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representative Ralston of the 7th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To authorize the assessment and collection of a technology fee by the Magistrate Court of
2 Gilmer County; to identify the authorized uses of said technology fee; to provide for the
3 maintenance of said technology fee funds; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting
4 laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 (a) The clerk of the Magistrate Court of Gilmer County is hereby authorized to charge and
8 collect a technology fee to be set by the chief judge of the magistrate court in an amount not
9 to exceed \$5.00 for the filing of each civil action, garnishment action, and dispossessory
10 affidavit with the court and a surcharge not to exceed \$5.00 upon each fine assessed by the
11 court. Such technology fees shall be used exclusively to provide for technological needs of
12 the Magistrate Court of Gilmer County. 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) The fees collected pursuant to this section shall be maintained in a segregated fund by
21 the clerk of the magistrate court and shall be used only for the purposes authorized in this
22 section at the direction of the chief magistrate judge of the magistrate court.

23 (c) The authority to assess a technology fee pursuant to this Act shall terminate on
24 July 1, 2031, and any residual funds remaining in the segregated account established by
25 this Act shall then become dedicated to general Gilmer County technology uses.

26 **SECTION 2.**

27 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.