RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BEN HILL COUNTY, GEORGIA, TO REQUEST THE LEGISLATORS TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE FOR A TECHNOLOGY FEE TO BE CHARGED BY THE MAGISTRATE COURT OF BEN HILL COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Ben Hill County, Georgia (the "Board") has determined it would be in the best interests of Ben Hill County and its citizens to enact a technology fee as a surcharge of each fine assessed by the Magistrate Court of Ben Hill County; and

WHEREAS, fees have been enacted by the Georgia General Assembly for courts of other counties in the State;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby endorses and urges its Georgia legislative delegation to enact legislation to provide as follows:

"(a) The clerk of the Magistrate Court of Ben Hill County is hereby authorized to charge and collect a technology fee to be set by the chief magistrate in an amount not to exceed \$5.00 for the filing of each civil action or proceeding with the court and not to exceed \$5.00 as a surcharge upon each fine assessed by the court. Such technology fees shall be used exclusively to provide for technological needs of the Magistrate Court of Ben Hill County. Such uses shall include only the following:

- (1) Computer hardware and software purchases;
- (2) Lease, maintenance, and installation of computer hardware and software;
- (3) Purchase, lease, maintenance, and installation of audio-visual, imaging, scanning, facsimile, communications, projection, and printing equipment and software; and
- (4) Procurement of services and equipment for the conservation of court records and archiving the same to digital contents for public access.

(b) Funds collected pursuant to this section shall be maintained in a segregated account by the clerk of the Magistrate Court of Ben Hill County and shall be used only for the purposes authorized in this section.

(c) The authority to assess a technology fee pursuant to this section shall terminate on July 1, 2036, and any residual funds remaining in the fund established by this section shall remain dedicated to general Ben Hill County technology uses."

SO RESOLVED AND ADOPTED at a meeting of the Ben Hill County Board of Commissioners, this <u>day of July</u>, 2025.

[signatures on following page]

BEN HILL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

| HALV | WILEY, CHAIRMAN |
|-------|---------------------------|
| HOPE | HARMON, VICE CHAIRMAN |
| DANII | EL COWAN, COMMISSIONER |
| BENN | IE CALLOWAY, COMMISSIONER |
| IOHN | WILLIAM MOONEY, COMMISSIO |

PAMELA TURNER, COUNTY CLERK