

1 A RESOLUTION OF THE FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
2 DIRECTING THE COUNTY MANAGER AND COUNTY ATTORNEY TO CONDUCT AN  
3 ASSESSMENT OF THE FEASIBILITY OF ALLOWING PRO BONO LEGAL CLINICS  
4 TO SERVE AS A RESOURCE FOR CITIZENS FROM TIME TO TIME OR ON A  
5 RECURRING BASIS AT FULTON COUNTY LIBRARIES; AND FOR OTHER  
6 PURPOSES.

7 **WHEREAS**, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners aims to promote access  
8 to legal assistance for Fulton County residents who desire to protect their rights and  
9 understand the court system, and recognizes an ongoing need for assistance with  
10 landlord/tenant matters, family law issues, filling out necessary forms and court  
11 paperwork, and other matters; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes that access to  
13 legal resources and information promotes the fair and just adjudication of court cases and  
14 empowers residents to approach any legal issue with confidence, both in and outside the  
15 courtroom; and

16 **WHEREAS**, availability of legal assistance improves judicial efficiency and  
17 alleviates the burden of providing information to the public from judges and court staff;  
18 and

19 **WHEREAS**, the Atlanta legal community includes numerous non-profit legal  
20 organizations and pro bono attorneys with experience providing free legal resources,  
21 information, programming, and advice to the public; and

22 **WHEREAS**, Fulton County enjoys several productive partnerships with local legal  
23 organizations and pro bono attorneys, such as the programs offered at the Justice  
24 Resource Center located in the Fulton County Courthouse; and

1       **WHEREAS**, the excellent assistance provided at the Fulton County Courthouse  
2 necessarily has logistical limitations due to a singular location downtown and the lack of  
3 evening or weekend hours at the facility; and

4       **WHEREAS**, many Fulton County Library System locations are open during  
5 weekends and are located throughout Fulton County, such that they are well positioned  
6 to provide access to legal assistance to the public; and

7       **WHEREAS**, the Fulton County Board of Commissioners desires that Fulton  
8 County facilities and resources be available for pro bono clinics and other free legal  
9 assistance programming to the greatest extent feasible without disruption to existing  
10 Fulton County functions or undue burden on Fulton County employees.

11       **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fulton County Board of  
12 Commissioners hereby directs the County Manager and the County Attorney to conduct  
13 an assessment of the feasibility of allowing pro bono clinics to serve as a resource for  
14 citizens from time to time or on a recurring basis by providing for free legal assistance  
15 programs at facilities within the Fulton County Library System.

16       **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the County Manager, in consultation with the  
17 Director of the Fulton County Library System, shall include in his assessment the  
18 availability of, and impact on, facilities, personnel, and existing Fulton County  
19 programming and activities, and the extent to which such resources can be provided  
20 equitably throughout the County through the inclusion of facilities located in the northern,  
21 central, and southern areas of Fulton County.

