

26101636D

1 **HOUSE BILL NO. 465**

2 Offered January 14, 2026

3 Prefiled January 12, 2026

4 *A BILL to amend and reenact § 54.1-2957.18 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Advisory Board on*  
5 *Behavior Analysis; composition.*

6 Patron—Cohen

7 Committee Referral Pending

8 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**9 **1. That § 54.1-2957.18 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**10 **§ 54.1-2957.18. Advisory Board on Behavior Analysis.**11 A. The Advisory Board on Behavior Analysis (Advisory Board) shall assist the Board in carrying out the  
12 provisions of this chapter regarding the qualifications, examination, and regulation of licensed behavior  
13 analysts and licensed assistant behavior analysts.14 B. The Advisory Board shall consist of five members appointed by the Governor for four-year terms as  
15 follows: ~~two~~ three members shall be, at the time of appointment, licensed behavior analysts *or licensed*  
16 *assistant behavior analysts* who have practiced for at least three years; ~~one~~ member shall be, at the time of  
17 appointment, a licensed assistant behavior analyst *who has practieced for not less than three years*; one  
18 member shall be a physician licensed by the Board who is familiar with the principles of behavior analysis;  
19 and one member shall be a consumer of applied behavior analysis who does not hold a license as a behavior  
20 analyst or assistant behavior analyst who is appointed by the Governor from the Commonwealth at large.  
21 Vacancies occurring other than by expiration of terms shall be filled for the unexpired term.22 C. The Advisory Board shall, under the authority of the Board, recommend to the Board for its enactment  
23 into regulation the criteria for licensure as a behavior analyst or an assistant behavior analyst and the  
24 standards of professional conduct for holders of such licenses.25 The Advisory Board shall also assist in such other matters relating to behavior analysis as the Board in its  
26 discretion may direct.

INTRODUCED

HB465