

## **Resolution to Replace Behavioral Analysis Week with Student Appreciation Week**

*Sponsored by: Alex Sprague, Boyd Walker, and Sean Casey*

**WHEREAS:** Delegate Kim Taylor has just recently passed HJ151 which designates the week of March 20 as Behavioral Analysis week; {1}

**WHEREAS:** Applied Behavioral Analysis has been known to be discriminatory and manipulative towards autistic students; {2, 3}

**WHEREAS:** Many students particularly on the autism spectrum feel like they are not cared for and therefore will not be willing to listen to their teacher/instructor; {2}

**WHEREAS:** Many people claim Applied Behavioral Analysis has improved or been reformed but many people on the autism spectrum have pointed out that it is only sugarcoating its wrongdoings; {3, 4} and

**WHEREAS:** Schools' missions should be to educate students, but disrespecting students undermines that mission. It's very important to set the example that in order to get respect, one has to give respect. {5}

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** The Alexandria Democratic Committee calls upon the Virginia legislature to replace Behavioral Analysis Week with Student Appreciation Week, and to pass additional legislation to provide teachers better training on engaging with many students. {5, 6, 7}

### **RESOURCES:**

1. <https://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?ses=221&typ=bil&val=HJ151>
2. 'Invisible Abuse: ABA and the things only autistic people can see' by C.L. Lynch 03-28-2019 <https://neuroclastic.com/invisible-abuse-aba-and-the-things-only-autistic-people-can-see/>
3. 'Autism Speaks and ABA: Same Harmful Methods, Different Coat of Paint' by NeuroClastic 11-02-2020 <https://neuroclastic.com/autism-speaks-and-aba-same-corrupt-methods-different-coat-of-paint/>
4. 'Is ABA really Dog Training for Children?' By Carol Millman 03-27-2019 <https://neuroclastic.com/is-aba-really-dog-training-for-children-a-professional-dog-trainer-weighs-in/>
5. 'So we need to move beyond ABA and behaviorism but what should we do instead?' By the Alliance Against Seclusion and Restraint 02-10-2022 <https://fb.watch/bs0Pc3FU7J/>
6. 'The Sensory Funnel' by Asperger Experts 2017 <https://youtu.be/GiaNMnYVvmzI>
7. 'Different Ways of Communicating' by Asperger Experts 2017 <https://youtu.be/zhadj3Wpm-c>

