



March 2, 2026

I am Dr. James E. Kelly, a Maryland Physician, and a Board-Certified Adult, Child Adolescent, and Forensic Psychiatrist with 40 years of experience- representing the nationwide **Association of American Physicians and Surgeons** in **strong support to Senate Bill 903---** **(the Maryland Public Education Parental Partnership Act).**

Why would anybody not want to improve partnership between parents and schools?

Every public school should foster and obtain full parental inclusion and involvement in every aspect of their children's education.

Children do not belong to governments or schools.

Children belong to their parents and/or legal guardians-so it is essential that each public school develop and post a parent school compact at the beginning of each school year.

Therefore, it's essential that the Maryland State Department of Education provide : support, guidance, training and technical assistance to create the capacity for appropriate and **improved parent - school engagement.**

The Association of American Physicians and Surgeons strongly urges a **favorable report on Senate Bill 903.**