

# SAMLN19 Legislative Update 1: Week 1 (Jan 7-11) 1-3-19



Greetings SAM Legislative Network 2019 (SAMLN19) Members!

This is the first SAMLN19 Update of the 66<sup>th</sup> legislative session. SAM's advocacy team in Helena intends to use Updates with the [SAMLN19 Weekly Schedule](#) to communicate the issues happening in the legislature and our members through the Network. Thank you for using this information to keep your region's members informed and for agreeing to serve on the SAMLN19.

Please use the SAM website ([www.sammt.org](http://www.sammt.org)) as a resource for all things legislative under 'Advocacy', then [2019 Legislative Session](#). All information for the SAMLN19 is posted on the [SAMLN19](#) webpage – including this first SAMLN Update.

## General Information

Click on the items in [blue underline font](#) as they are links that will go directly to the item.

For a copy of the bills, click on the bill number (e.g. [HB 1](#)) or go to [LAWS](#).

All Bills being followed by SAM can be found on the [SAM Bills 2019](#).

[Contact a Legislator](#) (not ready yet at the time of this writing) site is on the [2019 Legislature](#) webpage. You can use the [Online Message Form](#) (not ready yet at the time of this writing).

You may also [Watch or Listen](#) to live and upcoming meeting and hearings. Just click on the meeting or hearing that is on the schedule.

[2019 SAM Legislative Session](#) webpage.

[SAMLN19 Rules of Conduct for Political Activity and Advocacy](#).

[SAMLN19 Effective Advocacy PowerPoint](#).

[SAMLN19 'How to Provide Testimony on a Bill' Video](#).

[SAMLN19 Community Forum](#).

[Legislator Contact Info by School District](#)

## Highlights of Week 1 (Jan 7-11)

The [SAMLN19 Schedule: Week 1](#) outlines the schedule of events and hearings on bills for the week. This schedule also outlines the stance of SAM (Proponent, Opponent, or Monitor) in the Comment section for each bill to be heard.

Monday through Friday of the first week of the session will consist of mainly orientation and organization meetings of the House and Senate, and the respective committees. The [SAMLN19 Schedule: Week 1](#) lists the committee meetings scheduled and references to the bills being heard. Clicking on the Bill Number will send you directly to the LAWS website where the Bill Action progress report is posted. The actual bill language can be obtained by clicking on the hyper link or PDF link at the top of the Bill Action page.

MT-PEC (leadership of MASBO, MFPE, MQEC, MREA, MTSBA and SAM) are meeting on Tuesday, Jan 8 to discuss the current status of bills impacting education. We intend to keep you informed of progress on the issues under consideration by MT-PEC as the session progresses.

On Wednesday, Jan 9, MT-PEC partners are meeting with the Governor to discuss the Governor's budget proposal and pending legislation. Also on Wednesday, Jan 9, at about 3:00 pm a Joint meeting of the House and Senate Education Committees has invited SAM to attend for introductions and organizational purposes. I will be given an opportunity to introduce the legislators on both committees to SAM, our purpose and goals for advocacy. I will also be presenting the RISE4MT Update on recruitment and retention of quality educators for Montana progress and anticipated legislative support.

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On Friday, Jan 11 a continuation of the Joint meeting of the House and Senate Education Committees is expected. Since most bills followed by SAM will be heard in these committees we intend on providing information to the joint committees upon request at the meeting on Friday.

## Upcoming Week 2 (Jan 14-18)

A Draft SAMLN19 Schedule for Week 2 will be prepared for your review later this week.

Each of the links in this Update are on the [SAMLN19](#) webpage. We will also produce a SAMLN19 Update 1 Podcast, giving you the opportunity to listen to what is happening for your convenience. I hope this background is helpful to you as you share information with your colleagues in your area!

*Kirk*