

# SAMLN19 Legislative Update 12: Week 12 (Mar 25-30) 3-22-19

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Greetings SAM Legislative Network 2019 (SAMLN19) Members!

## Highlights of Week 11 (Mar 18 – Mar 23)

More than 50 school administrators and another 50 trustees gathered in Helena on Monday, March 18 to advocate for MT public education during the MT-PEC Day of Advocacy. Thank you to all who took the time to provide testimony, attend hearings, share your story with legislators, and build relationships that positively impact the students you serve. Review [SAMLN19 Legislative Update 11 3-15-19](#) and [Podcast Week 11](#) to find out about the week's activity. The [SAMLN19 Schedule Week 11 Mar 18-23 Revised 3-21-19](#) will give you a broad overview of the work on bills followed in week 11.

Bills signed by the Governor this week: [HB 247 \(Grubbs\)](#) Provide greater flexibility for school districts in financing major maintenance- Support (SAM Priority Bill); [HB 153 \(Kelker\)](#) Generally revise education laws related to gifted and talented programs.

## Friday 3/15/19 (after Update 11 was sent):

House Floor:

- [HB 295 \(Anderson\)](#) Create grant program to encourage work-based learning – Passed 3<sup>rd</sup> reading.
- [HB 638 \(Bedey\)](#) Increasing K-12 special ed allowable cost payment – Support. Spec Ed Approp Cmte Bill with OTO inflation – Passed 3<sup>rd</sup> reading.
- [HB 177 \(Anderson\)](#) Allow school districts to use equalization aid for preschool programs – tabled in Senate Education Committee

## Monday 3/18/19

MT-PEC Day of Advocacy

Senate Education Committee

Bill Hearing:

- [HB 298 \(Pope\)](#) Revise funding for students with disabilities – Monitor
- [HB 351 \(McKamey\)](#) Encourage transformational learning – Support. Incentivize Transformational Learning - Cal Ketchum, Joe Steele, Scott Kinney, Tammy Lacey provided excellent support testimony
- [HB 387 \(Jones\)](#) Create advanced opportunity act for Montana students – Support. Incentivize CTE Innovation – Mike Perry, Thom Peck, Les Meyer, Tammy Lacey, Scott Kinney were great in providing support testimony

House Education Committee

- [HB 648 \(Farris-Olsen\)](#) Create state program to incentivize school breakfast program – Support. Governor No Kid Hungry incentive bill. Rick Duncan provided support testimony for SAM and several administrators provided great testimony as well.
- [SB 9 \(Salomon\)](#) Revise school funding related to overestimated ANB increases – Support. Clean Up Bill EDIC. Removes unintended double GTB Take. Rick Duncan provided support testimony for SAM
- [SB 60 \(Salomon\)](#) Generally revise laws related to financial aid programs– Monitor. MT University System

## Tuesday 3/19/19

Senate Judiciary Committee

- [HB 302 \(DeVries\)](#) Constitutional amendment to define person – Not a SAM Followed Bill

## Wednesday 3/20/19

### House Education Committee

- [HB 643 \(Knudsen\)](#) Extend state lands reimbursement block grant for schools – Support – Tara Thomas provided great testimony.
- [SB 140 \(Smith\)](#) Establish the Montana dyslexia screening and intervention act – Monitor
- [SB 197 \(Welborn\)](#) Generally revise education laws related to Montana youth challenge academy - Monitor

### Senate Education Committee

#### Executive Action:

- [HB 351 \(McKamey\)](#) Encourage transformational learning – Support. Incentivize Transformational Learning – Do Concur - Passed Committee 7-1
- [HB 387 \(Jones\)](#) CTE advanced opportunity – Support. Innovative CTE funding – Do Concur - Passed Committee 7-1
- [HB 601 \(Fuller\)](#) Transfer funds within OPI for school safety professional development grants – Do Concur as amended – Passed unanimously.

#### Bill Hearings:

- [HB 576 \(Bedey\)](#) Revise school finance laws related to gifts and endowments – Support. Flexibility for school districts.
- [HB 41 \(Windy Boy\)](#) Extend the Cultural Integrity and Commitment Act (language immersion programs) – Monitor

### House Taxation Committee

- [SB 253 \(Smith\)](#) Revise the tax lien and tax deed process for residential property – Monitor, MACSS research

### State Administration Committee

- [SB 130 \(Salomon\)](#) Revise school election law – Support

## Thursday 3/21/19

### Senate Judiciary Committee

- [HB 413 \(Anderson\)](#) Address vaping in schools - Support

## Friday 3/22/19

### House Education Committee

- [HB 667 \(Bachmeier\)](#) Create farm to school grant program – Support – Governor’s Food to School grant program

### Senate Education Committee

- [HB 218 \(Vinton\)](#) Generally revise laws related to career and technical education – Support
- [HB 295 \(Anderson\)](#) Create grant program to encourage work-based learning – Support

### House Taxation Committee

- [HB 636 \(Jones\)](#) Revise laws related to protested taxes – Support

## Senate Finance Committee

- [HB 638 \(Bedey\)](#) Increasing K-12 special ed allowable cost payment – Support

## Saturday 3/23/19

## Upcoming Week 12 (Mar 25 – Mar 30)

[SAM Followed Bills 3-22-19](#) are up to 123 with 260 bill drafts being monitored. [SAM Followed Bills Priority Status 3-22-19](#) describes the status of bills under the SAM advocacy priorities – Support Adequate and Equitable School Funding (21 bills), Support Recruitment and Retention of Quality Educators (5 bills), Oppose Privatization with Public Funds (0 bills), Support Facility and Technology Infrastructure (4 bills), Support School Based Mental Health Services (5 bills), and a new category of Other SAM Followed Bills (39 bills).

Please checkout [SAMLN19 Schedule Week 12 Mar 25-30 Revised 3-22-19](#) to see the schedule of bills and the status of the SAM's - support, opposition or monitoring - during the upcoming committee hearings.

## Monday 3/25/19

### Senate Finance and Claims Committee

- [HB 290 \(Webb\)](#) Require child support cooperation for food stamp eligibility – Monitor
- [SB 239 \(Regier\)](#) Provide for moratorium on property taxes for broadband fiber and cable - Monitor. Possible help to broadband fiber for schools, proponent schools
- [HB 351 \(McKamey\)](#) Encourage transformational learning – Support. Incentivize Transformational Learning
- [HB 387 \(Jones\)](#) Create advanced opportunity act for Montana students – Support. Incentivize CTE Innovation

### House Judiciary Committee

- [SB 132 \(Regier\)](#) Creating a student safety accountability act - Monitor. Have suggested amendment to include more than just public schools

## Tuesday 3/26/19

### Senate Finance and Claims Committee

- [HB 2 \(Ballance\)](#) General Appropriations Act – Section E - Executive Budget for Program 6 (OPI) and Program 9 (School Funding)

### House Taxation Committee

- [HB 646 \(Olsen\)](#) Provide tax credit for purchase of a gun safe – Monitor. Gun safety bill

## Wednesday 3/27/19

### Senate Finance and Claims Committee

- [HB 2 \(Ballance\)](#) General Appropriations Act – Section E - Executive Budget for Program 6 (OPI) and Program 9 (School Funding)

### House Taxation Committee

- [HB 706 \(Winter\)](#) Revise individual income tax credit - Monitor

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Thursday 3/28/19

## Senate Finance and Claims Committee

- [HB 2 \(Ballance\)](#) General Appropriations Act – Section E - Executive Budget for Program 6 (OPI) and Program 9 (School Funding)

## Senate Judiciary Committee

- [HB 567 \(Skees\)](#) Establish Montana school marshal program – Monitor. School Marshall Program
- [HB 590 \(Fern\)](#) Revise criminal procedure laws related to sexual offenses - Monitor

Each of the links in this Update are on the [SAMLN19](#) webpage. We have produced the [SAMLN19 Legislative Update 12 Podcast 3-22-19](#), 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*

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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](#).

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](#)