

# SAMLN19 Legislative Update 2: Week 2 (Jan 14-18) 1-11-19



Hi SAM Legislative Network 2019 (SAMLN19) Members!

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

The first week of the 2019 Legislative Session is complete. Generally, the week was filled with organization and training for legislators as well as reacquainting connections with legislators who are working to carry bills important to SAM and education. Rules for the House and Senate were adopted. Some controversy in development of the House rules but, in the end, adopted that blasting a bill directly to the floor of the House would require 58 votes. HB 1, the feed bill, passed 3<sup>rd</sup> reading in the House on Friday.

You can review [SAMLN19 Schedule Week 1 Jan 7-11 Revised 1-7-19](#) for details and check out [SAMLN19 Legislative Update 1 1-3-19](#) with [Podcast](#) for thoughts about the week. On Wednesday, January 9, Angela McLean (representing the MUS Rural Recruitment and Retention Task Force) and I (representing RISE4MT) presented the update on recruitment and retention of quality educators for Montana including the [RISE4MT Update 1-9-19](#) report to the Joint Education Committees. This was a robust look at the progress made, and a request for legislation this session intended to enhance recruitment and retention efforts. On Friday, January 11, we (Kirk and Rick Duncan) introduced SAM to the House Joint Education Appropriations Subcommittee and the Senate Education Committee. We also attended several meetings with legislators who are working on bills that will impact education and provided input into the language of those bills.

## Upcoming Week 2 (Jan 14-18)

The first committee hearings for [SAM Followed Bills](#) start on Monday and continue through the week. Please review [SAMLN19 Schedule Week 2 Jan 14-18 Revised 1-11-19](#) to see the schedule of bills and the status of the SAM's - support, opposition or monitoring - during the committee hearings. Testimony is prepared to represent SAM's support for – HB 61 (Revise school data privacy laws) in the House Education Committee, and in Senate Education Committee – SB 11 (Clarify age requirements related to the definition of pupil), SB 12 Revise school funding related to oil and gas production), and SB 16 (Revise school funding related to special education joint board) all clean up bills from the Education Interim Committee.

The Education Appropriations Subcommittee will begin its work on the Section E of the Executive Budget starting with Higher Education (OCHE) with K-12 scheduled to begin on Tuesday, January 22.

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](#)

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Each of the links in this Update are on the [SAMLN19](#) webpage. We will also produce a SAMLN19 Update 2 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*