

# SAM Legislative Network 2017 Info December 2016

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Greetings SAM Legislative Network Members and the SAM Affiliate Regional Presidents and Directors, Federal Relations Coordinators, and Legislative Committee Members:

You are receiving this correspondence as a result of your interest in service to SAM's advocacy goal, to be a part of the SAM Legislative Network, or, you are a SAM affiliate region president/director that did not appoint a SAMLN representative. SAM Legislative Network 2017 (SAMLN17) members signing up to participate are on this [LIST](#). The affiliate regions missing representation are in red font. If your region is missing a representative, please take a moment to contact someone in your region and ask them to join the SAMLN17 (click [HERE](#) for a SAM member to sign up) and then send their name to me (Kirk Miller at [samkm@sammt.org](mailto:samkm@sammt.org)) and I will follow up with them. It is important that all affiliates and all regions are represented. Thanks for your review of this.

The rest of this email is information about the SAMLN so you are aware of what we hope to accomplish and how we can communicate effectively throughout the session.

## **SAM Legislative Network**

### **PURPOSE:**

SAMLN was formed in order to effectively communicate SAM legislative issues/bills and collect input to allow appropriate representation of SAM issues/bills during the legislative session.

### **WHO:**

SAMLN has a regional representative from each of the 6 SAM affiliates -- MASS, MAEMSP, MASSP, MACSS, MCASE and META. This set up is intended to be comprehensive in representing the issues of each affiliate in each region of the state -- thus giving SAM great communication abilities from broad representation across the state.

### **RESPONSIBILITY OF SAMLN MEMBER:**

1. Review requests that come from the Executive/Associate Director and/or SAM DA Steering Committee Representative
2. Collect input from your region relative to the request and communicate that input back to the Executive/Associate Director and/or SAM DA Steering Committee Representative
3. Collect input on legislative issues from the region and communicate those issues to the Executive/Associate Director and/or SAM DA Steering Committee Representative
4. Coordinate a regional effort on a "Call To Action" which would be a request to contact legislators from your region providing a stance or information on a given bill or issue.
5. Possibly coordinate travel of representatives from your region to Helena at key times to testify on important SAM issues/bills.

## CONSIDERATIONS:

1. [2017 Legislators Info by School System](#) is a link that has all legislators and their contact information by school for every district in the state. Please review the school districts represented in your region and build an email and address contact list of legislators for your region so it can be used when a "Call To Action" is requested. A training will be provided to SAMLN17 members on how to use the spreadsheet with slicers to search for the list you want.
2. Familiarize yourself with the [2017 Legislative Session](#) tab information on the SAM website at [www.sammt.org](http://www.sammt.org). There are many resources that I hope are organized for easy use. Give me input if you have suggestions on making the site better for your use. All of resources for the SAMLN17 will be updated under the [2017 Legislative Session](#) tab, then [SAM Legislative Network 2017](#) (in fact everything in this memo and the attachments are uploaded to the website).
3. We will be emailing you with progress and reports from the session that I hope you will share with your region via regional scheduled meetings or email network that you would set up with the members in your region.

SAM sent a [letter](#) with attachments to each legislator on December 1 to congratulate them for their service and offer our association as a resource for their use during the session. We will hand deliver a copy to each legislator a copy of the "[Great Work of Montana's Public Schools, Volume IV](#)" to promote our schools. Knowing that all legislators have this information may be beneficial to you as you prepare to be in contact with them allowing us to be very effective from the beginning of the session.

Thanks so much for your commitment to our profession through your service on the SAM Legislative Network 2017! If you wish to appoint someone else to represent your region, or, you know of someone else who wants to be involved on the SAMLN17, please contact me (Kirk). We will be in touch with you!

Happy Holidays to You!!

Kirk and Pat