

# SAMLN17 Call to Action on HB 376 4-20-17

## **CALL TO ACTION on Blasted HB 376**

1 message

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kirk Miller** <[samkm@sammt.org](mailto:samkm@sammt.org)>  
Date: Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 12:48 PM  
Subject: CALL TO ACTION on Blasted HB 376  
To: [samln2017@sammt.org](mailto:samln2017@sammt.org)

Hi SAMLN17,

Just when you think something is actually dead in the session, a blast motion brought [HB 376](#) (Windy Boy) Charter School Bill back to life this morning on a [26-24](#) vote. See vote here -<http://bit.ly/2pjqmSA>.

HB 376 will be up for 2<sup>nd</sup> reading in the Senate as soon as 1:00 today, so if you can, take a few moments to **contact senators and tell them to vote NO on HB376**. If you know a Yes voter on the vote list, please do contact them immediately to ask for their no vote.

Here's how:

- send a message (<http://leg.mt.gov/css/Sessions/65th/legwebmessage.asp>)
- call [406-444-4800](tel:406-444-4800). You can leave a written message for up to five legislators at a time.

HB376 includes provisions for:

- Creation of a public charter school commission that will authorize and supervise charter schools
- Making charter schools exempt from the general supervision of the board of public education and the accreditation standards
- Funding charter schools through the school funding formula in Title 20, Chapter 9 (i.e., **your** funding formula)

Here are links to more information: [HB376](#) and the accompanying [Legal Review](#).

Thanks and if you have any questions, please give me a call.

Kirk

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## **Update on Blasted HB 376 Charter School Bill**

1 message

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**Kirk Miller** <[samkm@sammt.org](mailto:samkm@sammt.org)>  
To: [samln2017@sammt.org](mailto:samln2017@sammt.org)  
Cc: "samkm@sammt.org" <[samkm@sammt.org](mailto:samkm@sammt.org)>, Pat Audet <[sampa@sammt.org](mailto:sampa@sammt.org)>  
Bcc: Kimberly Scofield <[samks@sammt.org](mailto:samks@sammt.org)>, Gary Wagner <[samgw@sammt.org](mailto:samgw@sammt.org)>

Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 5:58 PM

Hi SAMLN17,

Even I would characterize today as and interesting day at the legislature!

A non-posted Senate session at 9:30 AM this morning led to [HB 376](#) being blasted back to life with a vote of [26-24](#) (the narrowest of margins). The Senate then recessed until 1:00 PM where they came back into session with HB 376 listed to be heard on 2nd reading. This led to the Call to Action that I sent to you at about 12:30 PM today. During the floor session at 1:00, on 2 different occasions, they made a motion to stand at ease and added new bills to the list for 2nd reading, and each time, made motions to move HB 376 to the end of the list. At about 2:10 PM, the Senate recessed until 4:00 PM with only HB 376 left on the board.

At 4:00 PM the Senate convened, added several bills for 2nd reading, moved HB 376 to the end of the list again. Then, with only HB 376 left on the board, a motion was made to suspend the rules and allow 3rd reading on bills heard today. For a brief moment the electronic Senate agenda showed HB 376 on 2nd reading and also on 3rd reading! That was then changed, and a motion was made to move HB 376 to tomorrow, and the Senate then proceeded to take action on several bills on 3rd reading that had been on 2nd reading today.

Our interpretation of all of this is that the leadership knew, as a result of your work on the Call to Action, that they did not have the votes to pass HB 376, so they continued to postpone it. Now it may be on the Senate Agenda tomorrow, April 21, however, the [9:30 AM Senate Advanced Agenda](#) does not have HB 376 marked up for 2nd reading (this could change at any time before 9:30 AM tomorrow). It may be on an Agenda established later in the day tomorrow.

With all of that said ... **NOW IS THE TIME TO CONTINUE TO CONTACT YOUR SENATORS TO REQUEST THEIR NO VOTE ON HB 376** (sorry for the shouting capital letters and red font). We have been working with Senators all day to have those who voted No keep voting that way, and also believe we have a couple who voted YES who will change their vote to NO if they ever get a chance to vote on the bill. Your voice with your Senator is what will make the biggest difference overnight on this bill. Please make the contacts and thank you!

Here's how:

- Send a message (<http://leg.mt.gov/css/Sessions/65th/legwebmessage.asp>)
- Call [406-444-4800](tel:406-444-4800). You can leave a written message for up to five legislators at a time.
- Call them directly (or text) using the contact info on the [Legislators Info by School System](#) spreadsheet we have provided to you.

Thanks to all!!

Kirk and Pat