

SAMLN17 Call to Action – HB 376 and Amendments 4-24-17

HB 376 Future Uncertain - Games being played - CALL TO ACTION

1 message

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Mon, Apr 24, 2017 at 4:30 PM

To: samln2017@sammt.org

Cc: "samkm@sammt.org" <samkm@sammt.org>, Pat Audet <sampa@sammt.org>

Hi SAMLN17,

Just a quick update today on the progress of [HB 376](#) since the report I sent on Friday, 4/21. The Senate has met 3 times today and HB 376 was on the agenda for the 1:00 PM and 4:00 PM session, but not the 10:00 AM session. At 4:00 PM Sen Thomas moved to pass on HB 376 for the day.

In the background, 3 amendments have been proposed for HB 376, one of which is published (HB0376 11-APM 4-21-17 - Sen. Salomon amendment) and the other 2 (HB0376 12-apm 4-24-17 - Sen Thomas with input from Kris Hansen and HB0376 31-APM 3 4-24-17 - Sen Thomas) we have copies of but they haven't been forwarded to the Senate for consideration as of 4:15 PM today. Your review of those Amendments will reveal:

- HB0376 11-APM 4-21-17 - Sen. Salomon -- basically takes the language in HB 376 and replaces it with Montana Administrative Rule 10.55.604 (Montana rule for forming a Charter School under the BPE rules). If this is the amendment that passes, SAM and MT-PEC would support the bill.
- HB0376 12-apm 4-24-17 - Sen Thomas with input from Kris Hansen -- basically strikes all language in the current HB 376 replaces it with language that would allow a school board to form a charter without the need to involve the BPE or any accreditation rules including teacher licensure and endorsement or to designate a process for collecting community input or accountability mechanism (back to the language promoted by the ALEC bills the last 4 sessions). If this were to pass we (SAM and MT-PEC) would be going all out to defeat the bill.
- HB0376 31-APM 3 4-24-17 - Sen Thomas which leaves the language in the original HB 376 in place but eliminates the requirement that ... "no more than 4 of the members (of the Charter School Commission) may be affiliated with the same political party".

So, HB 376 and these amendments are possibly scheduled to be heard on 2nd reading tomorrow, 4/25 in the Senate at 10:30 AM.

My recommendation is to **continue to contact your Senators** and let them know that the **Salomon amendment is the only amendment which may make this bill meet constitutional muster** and not denigrate public schools in our state by allowing Charters to be formed that are not held accountable to the will of Montana citizens for the quality of education they expect. **Either of the Thomas amendments make the bill a NO vote from all involved. [Click HERE](#) to send a message to your Senator, or make the personal call or contact that you know may impact that Senator's vote. Do it tonight if you would please.**

Thanks for your continued attention to the SAMLN17 Calls to Action!!

Kirk and Pat

3 attachments

 **HB0376 11-APM 4-21-17.pdf**
16K

 **HB0376 12-apm 4-24-17.pdf**
15K

 **HB0376 31-APM 3 4-24-17.pdf**
9K