

# SAMLN17 Legislative Update 1: Week 1 (Jan 2-6)

---



Greetings SAM Legislative Network 2017 (SAMLN17) Members!

This is the first SAMLN17 Update of the 65<sup>th</sup> legislative session. SAM's advocacy team in Helena (Kirk and Pat) intends to use Updates and the SAMLN17 Schedule (referenced below) to communicate the issues happening with the legislature and our members through the Network. Thank you for using this information to keep your region's members informed and for agreeing to serve on the SAMLN17.

Please use the SAM website ([www.sammt.org](http://www.sammt.org)) as a resource for all things legislative under 'Announcements', then '[2017 Legislative Session](#)'. All information for the SAMLN17 is posted under '[SAM Legislative Network 2017](#)' on the 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 tracked by SAM can be found on the [SAM Bills 2017](#) webpage under [SAM General Bills](#).

[Contact a Legislator](#) site is on the [Legislative Session](#) webpage. You can use the [Online Message Form](#).

You may also watch or listen to [Live & Upcoming](#) meeting and hearings. Just click on the meeting or hearing that is on the schedule.

[SAMLN17 Rules of Conduct for Political Activity and Advocacy](#).

[SAM "How To" Video - Providing Testimony at a Legislative Hearing](#).

## Highlights of Week 1 (Jan 2-6)

Click [HERE](#) to see SAMLN17 Schedule which outlines the schedule of events and hearings on bills for the week. This schedule also outlines the stance of SAM (Proponent, Opponent, or Monitor) in the Comment section for each bill to be heard. This Schedule is also posted on the SAM website under '[SAM Legislative Network 2017](#)'.

MT-PEC (leadership of MASBO, MEA-MFT, MQEC, MREA, MTSBA and SAM) are meeting on Tuesday, Jan 3 to discuss the current status of bills impacting education. We (Kirk and Pat) intend to keep you informed of progress on the issues under consideration by MT-PEC as the session progresses.

Monday through Thursday will consist of mainly orientation and organization meetings of the House and Senate, and the respective committees. The [SAMLN17 Schedule](#) lists the committee meetings scheduled and references to the bills being heard. Clicking on the Bill Number will send you directly to the LAWS website where the Bill Action progress report is posted. The actual bill language can be obtained by clicking on the hyper link or PDF link at the top of the Bill Action page.

On Wednesday, Pat and I will attend a Joint meeting of the House and Senate Education Committee for introductions and organizational purposes. We will be given an opportunity to introduce the legislators on those 2 committees to SAM, our purpose and goals for advocacy.

On Friday, the Senate Education Committee (3:00 PM in room 422) will be hearing [SB 5](#) sponsored by Sen. Tom Facey (D-Missoula). This the first Bill that we will testify as a proponent in order to bring more flexibility to the funding formula and the use of the INTERCAP Loan Program. The hearings will be held on Friday, January 9 at 3 p.m. in the House Education Committee, Room 137 of the State Capitol. The SAM office team intends to provide testimony in support of both bills on Friday.

# SAMLN17 Legislative Update 1: Week 1 (Jan 2-6)

---



## Upcoming Week 2 (Jan 9-13)

A Draft SAMLN17 Schedule for Week 2 will be prepared for your review later this week.

Each of the links in this Update are on the '[SAM Legislative Network 2017](#)' website. We hope this background is helpful to you as you share information with your colleagues in your area!

*Kirk and Pat*