

SAMLN23 Wednesday (Jan 11) Update

1 message

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To: samks@sammt.org

Wed, Jan 11, 2023 at 8:06 PM

Hello SAM LN23 Members,

As promised, we will send you updates 2 times each week (Wednesday evenings and Monday mornings.)

Three things for you to consider for Wednesday, Jan 11:

#1 The zoom meeting calendar. We will attempt to keep zoom meetings each Monday at noon. There are some small deviations. Please use this calendar [SAM LN23 Zoom Meeting Calendar](#) and note the Mondays that were canceled or moved to Tuesday due to holiday.

#2 Upcoming Hearings, 10-day Calendar. Please see the attached document which will help you quickly find meetings that are coming up soon. Be aware this changes frequently and sometimes without notice. Please be sure to check the legislative website for the most current info on any bill.

#3 HB 203 Upcoming Hearing & Testimony. This Bill will be heard next Monday, Jan 16 at 3pm in House Education. HB 203 (formerly LC 732) is a bill regarding school open enrollment. The partners of the Coalition of Advocates of Montana's Public Schools have worked with the sponsor to mitigate negative impact to school districts and influence the discussion in a more positive direction. The sponsor has addressed Coalition concerns as we have argued that in any system creating open public school enrollment, the bill and the law prioritize the right and duty of each school district to focus on serving its resident families as its first and primary obligation. For a district of attendance, open enrollment with no controls could impinge on this obligation to the detriment of the residents of each school district.

Dennis Parman, Executive Director of MREA, will speak on behalf of the Coalition. *You can find the Coalition written testimony attached.* You can watch the livestream of all legislative hearings and for sessions from the legislative website.

If you are interested in providing your thoughts to the Committee, you can do so in person, over Zoom, or submit written testimony electronically. We encourage you to do so whether you agree with the legislation or have a different point of view. *Keep in mind this is not an official call to action, but we want to make sure you have the opportunity to weigh in if you so desire.*

To testify in person:
House Education Committee, 3:00pm
Room 137
Montana State Capitol

To testify via Zoom:
Submit testimony with the form linked immediately below for HB 203. (Please note, you will not be able to register until Thursday, January 12): leg.mt.gov/public-testimony

To Submit Written Testimony:
Submit an email to the House Committee Members, you can email the committee from the legislative website.

Thank you for your participation. Should you have any questions, concerns or want to talk more about any legislation, please don't hesitate to reach out to either Rob or Rick directly.

Rob Watson: samrw@sammt.org
Rick Duncan: rduncan1955@gmail.com

2 attachments



SAM Upcoming Hearings, Jan 11.pdf

42K



HB 203 Advocacy Testimony - January 10, 2023.pdf

108K