

Insurance and Real Estate Committee  
February 27, 2020

Testimony in Support of:

*H.B. No. 5248, H.B. No. 5254, An Act Establishing A Task Force To Study Health Insurance Coverage for Peer Support Services In This State.*

*H.B. No. 5254, An Act Requiring Health Insurance Coverage For Medication-Assisted Treatment For Opioid Use Disorder*

*H.B. No. 5256 An Act Concerning Required Health Insurance Coverage For Detoxification And Substance Abuse Services*

Co-Chairs Scanlon and Lesser; Vice Chairs Dathan and Hartley; Ranking Member Pavalock-D'Amato and Kelly; and distinguished members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee:

*My name is Terry Sachs.*

*My wife and I have a granddaughter who is now nearly 7 years old. She has been in our custody since her premature birth. She spent about 5 weeks in the NICU recovering from addiction. We have, for over 10 years, helped our daughter to try to receive treatment for addiction, but all too often there were roadblocks: medical providers who would not talk to us due to HIPPA regulations, hospitals that would discharge her quickly back into the streets, lack of beds available for treatment, etc.*

*She is now improving with medically assisted treatment but in need of additional forms of support for sober housing, counseling, and occupational therapy to keep her from returning to a life of drug addiction and to allow her to be a mother. Please help her and those like her.*

*I am urging you to consider these bills to ensure insurance companies are required to provide help to those seeking services and to utilize MAT as a standard form of treatment, the data suggests this is one of the most successful ways to help those recovering from addiction.*