

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 Sally Arnott.

We lost our daughter Sept. 9,2015 from opioids and multiple other substances Our family is left with a hole in our hearts. A wound that will never heal. Drug dealers should be held responsible for deaths they caused. More treatment facilities and sober houses need to be available. Counselors are needed to guide patients through the system with insurance and other boundaries keeping them from getting the help they need.

There are so many people seeking help with no where to turn. Our daughter Erin Christine was 39 years old. She left behind two beautiful children. There are so many other similar stories. This epidemic has gotten way out of control. Please be the help they all need thank you for your consideration. Sincerely Sally & Ken Arnott

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.