

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 Heather Franklin .*

*My cousin has been in recovery for 3 months now but this is his third time trying to get clean. The first 3 times the detox programs he was in kicked him out after 10 days and let him go home. Anyone knows that is not long enough. This hasn't only happened to my cousin. It also happen to my fiancé when he was getting clean. He was kicked out of detox after 5 days and sent on his way. No resources, no help. Just 5 days of detox. No mental or emotional help or where he should go next. This needs to change. More help and better help needs to be available for people wanting help. How can you sit here and watch all these people die? What if it was your children or your grandchildren? You would want them getting the proper help. Thanks for taking your time to read this.*

*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.*