

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 Erin Mccauley.*

*My name is Erin and I'm in recovery for opiate abuse. It has been 15 years of struggling, even though I've managed to stay clean for the last 3 years it's still a struggle. But thats not the reason I'm writing this . Everyone has a story! Im writing on here because one of the biggest problems we have, one of the reasons why kids are dying is because they are scared to call 911. They are scared that when they call 911 they are going to get in trouble! And depending on the cob they are correct! there needs to not just be a law that states if you call nine-one-one you will not get in trouble, but it also needs to be enforced. I have lost over 9 friends and three family members do to overdoses of heroin! And from my understanding four of them would still be alive if the people they were with weren't scared to call the police!*

*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.*