

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 Randi Sachs.*

*We have been dealing with drug addiction for almost 15 years with two of our adopted daughters. I've had excellent Insurance until they were 26 and we have paid a lot of money out of pocket to try and help them. The emotional cost to the family is unbelievable. There is no greater pain than driving home from work wondering if your kid is dead and then dealing with the frustration of having them in the emergency room with nowhere to go after 24 hours or less. I am happy to report that my oldest is 2 yrs clean and my youngest is almost one year clean. My marriage has survived but we have been ostracized by some of our family members. The cost to our country our community to families and individuals is unacceptable!*

*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.*