

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 Ted Roman.

I lost my brother to an overdose in 2015. He was in and out of rehabs because of the games insurance played kicking him out before he was ready and would always relapse. I know too many people that have buried loved ones whose first introduction to opiates were from a Medical Doctor that did not educate them on the risks associated with the prescribed "medicine". I ask you to to help save our future generations with real, common sense legislation to help treat the scourge of sick people that want and need our help.

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.