

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 Leanne Swanson Pinedo.*

*Where did my brother start his drug abuse it wasn't at home He is in his 60's now no clue where he is jail halfway house or prison back and forth that's how it's been for many years. Born in a small town on a farm where he worked his way from ag high school -college. Not naming schools bc it doesn't matter. Drug abuse started off early with high school mates carried on to this day. Any one anywhere any walk of life it matters not. Drug abuse is a mental-physical health problem. Federal and states representatives please help addicts with addict/drug specific treatment and follow up. Maybe find what/where recovery programs have been successful and Promote wellness through all types of therapy.*

*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.*