

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 Brittany Waldron.

After using on and off for three years, I had a tragic loss from this disease I lost my best friend someone that's I always talked to that was my brother . That is when it hit me that this isn't a game it is a life or death situation. On September 4th 2019 I checked into a program and it wasn't easy I called 25 programs before I got into a bed. I knew that when I checked in that 30days was just enough to get me back to clean life and good habits I went in and told them that's after my 30days I want to go long term treatment and I am still here in recovery fighting this addiction one day at a time and have a sponsor and go to meetings. Everyday isn't easy I have to fight with the devil everyday to stay sober. Recovery is possible if you work it one day at a time.

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.