

Submitter: Rosaleen Kosydar

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response

Measure: HB4002

To Whom It May Concern,

I am concerned about the ongoing studies that are needed for the current drug addiction problem that our state is facing. I have had drug addictions impacting my family since 2006-my son had a neck injury and saw a general doctor and was prescribed OxyContin-no warnings to possible addiction. Well, the nightmare began with this Rx and the cost has been extremely high to my family, son, and communities. My son has battled a life-threatening opioid addiction since 2006 and has been incarcerated both in county jails and the state prison (currently serving a 10-year sentence from his last drug related crime.) I lost my 27-year marriage, home and family security because my husband become an addict. He also ended up doing county and prison time because of his addiction and later his addiction took his life-he was only 58. I have spent too many hours in hospitals trying to have hope that my son would survive overdoses and watch his daughters go through the heartache of seeing their father get clean, but later have the power of the drugs consume him until he was medically saved or only by the grace of God kept from losing his life. All I can express to those that have not felt the bitter pain of watching an addict spiral out of control-hurting themselves & others, is that it doesn't take a study to know that there is a crisis and there needs to be early intervention and consequences to help the addict and family. Faith based programs should be highly supported, and given equal funding to help the drug addiction crisis. If you like a roller coaster ride that has no smooth ending, but offers a "hell" of a ride, then don't get down to the heart of this crisis and stay the course of never using funding to reach the addict-early on...