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Out of the 199 cases of sexual exploitation reported in 2017 in Pennsylvania, 54 involved minors, according to the National Human Trafficking Hotline.

MISTER ROGERS HONORED IN RESOLUTION, TRAIL

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There’s no doubt Pennsylvania has a heroin and opioid epidemic. As Democratic chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, I am very motivated in this fight. The current budget includes funding designated to put people first in combating the opioid epidemic, including:

- An additional $4.5 million to provide home visitation services to approximately 800 families affected by substance use disorder.
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The Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs will continue to provide grants to entities across the state to implement and expand access to substance use disorder treatment, prevention and education programs.

If you or someone you know is battling a prescription drug or heroin addiction, please consider calling the state’s 24/7 helpline, 1-800-662-HELP, for information about treatment resources. Your call will be completely confidential. You can also visit www.dhs.pa.gov for more information about available treatment services.

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As PennDOT prepares to begin offering federally compliant Real ID cards beginning in March, state residents can apply for pre-verification to allow them to expedite the approval process.

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The new identification cards will cost around $60 upon first issuance, and can be renewed every four years for the standard renewal fee of $30.50. For more information, visit www.penndot.gov-REALID or contact my office with questions or for assistance.

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