



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Brad Hoylman-Sigal

Senate Passes Kid-Safety Gun Measures Including Senator Hoylman's New Restrictions on Imitation Guns

BRAD HOYLMAN-SIGAL March 4, 2019



ALBANY- Senator Brad Hoylman (D/WF-Manhattan) released the following statement in response to the passage of [S35](#) and [S450A](#) through the Senate. Hoylman's [S35](#) would strengthen New York State's regulation of imitation weapons and limit the availability of toys that substantially imitate the appearance of firearms. [S2450A](#), sponsored by Senator Liz Krueger, would create stronger regulations for the safe storage of firearms.

Senator Hoylman said: "Since 1994, there have been at least 63 shootings in New York State because of toy or imitation guns. Police say it's virtually impossible to train officers to identify imitation guns from a distance. That's why it's important that we stand up to gunmakers and the National Rifle Association and pass my bill that would require toy guns be distinguishable from the real thing. Hopefully, with the bills we've passed today on toy guns and safe storage, we'll save a lot of heartache for New York families later. I'm grateful to Senate Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins for continuing to make gun safety a priority."

Senator Hoylman's [S35](#) would bring State law in line with New York City's Administrative Code by establishing a uniform definition for imitation weapons that would, along with a number of identifying features, require toy guns to be brightly colored or constructed entirely of transparent or translucent materials. Additionally, the bill would make it unlawful for individuals and retailers to sell toys that fail to meet these requirements.

In 2015, former Attorney General Eric Schneiderman brought a suit against several major online retailers and third-party sellers, including Walmart, K-Mart, Sears and Amazon, for violating state law regarding the sale of imitation weapons. The Attorney General's investigation found that between 2012 and 2014 these retailers sold more than 6,000 prohibited toy guns to New York consumers. In 2017, seven of these retailers reached a settlement with the Attorney General's office. Hoylman's bill would codify the results of these settlements, under which the retailers agreed to sell only toy guns that comply with New York City's standard throughout the state.

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