



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Anna M. Kaplan

Senator Anna M. Kaplan Passes Legislation Criminalizing Staged Car Accidents, "Alice's Law"

Senator Anna M. Kaplan

June 3, 2019

ISSUE:

- [Insurance Fraud](#)
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(Albany, NY) -- The New York State Senate passed legislation today ([S2508](#)), sponsored by **Senator Anna M. Kaplan** (D-Great Neck), that would add two new sections to the penal law to make it a crime to stage, or arrange to have another person cause, an automobile accident and collision with intent to commit insurance fraud. Currently, while insurance fraud is already illegal, there is no criminal penalty available for the crash itself.

Senator Anna M. Kaplan said "Many New Yorkers would be shocked to learn that there is no specific crime associated with staging a motor vehicle accident. By finally criminalizing staged collisions, this legislation will make our roads safer, serving as a powerful deterrent for a crime that puts the safety of the public at risk every day. Additionally, it gives our law enforcement agencies another tool to fight this dangerous crime."

The legislation, ([S2508](#)) sponsored by **Senator Anna M. Kaplan**, establishes a Class E felony for staging a motor vehicle accident when a person intentionally causes a motor vehicle collision, with the intent to commit a fraudulent insurance act. Further, it creates a class D felony for when a person commits the same crime and causes serious physical injury to another person who was not a participant in the crime.

Staged motor vehicle accidents occur when a person intentionally causes a motor vehicle collision and then makes false insurance claims to recover money for fake

injuries or damages. This results in increased insurance costs and premiums for drivers across New York State, and has resulted in countless injuries and even deaths.

The bill is named after Alice Ross, who was killed in 2003 as a result of a staged motor vehicle collision.

The bill has already passed the State Assembly, and will ultimately be delivered to the Governor's desk to be signed into law.

related legislation

[2019-S2508](#)

[Insurance Fraud](#), [Fraud Prevention](#)

- Introduced
 - In Committee Assembly
 - In Committee Senate
- ◦ On Floor Calendar Assembly
- ◦ On Floor Calendar Senate
- ◦ Passed Assembly
- ◦ Passed Senate
- Delivered to Governor
- Signed By Governor
-

[Creates the crime of staging a motor vehicle accident](#)

January 25, 2019

Senate Floor Calendar

Sponsored by [Anna M. Kaplan](#)

Do you support this bill?