



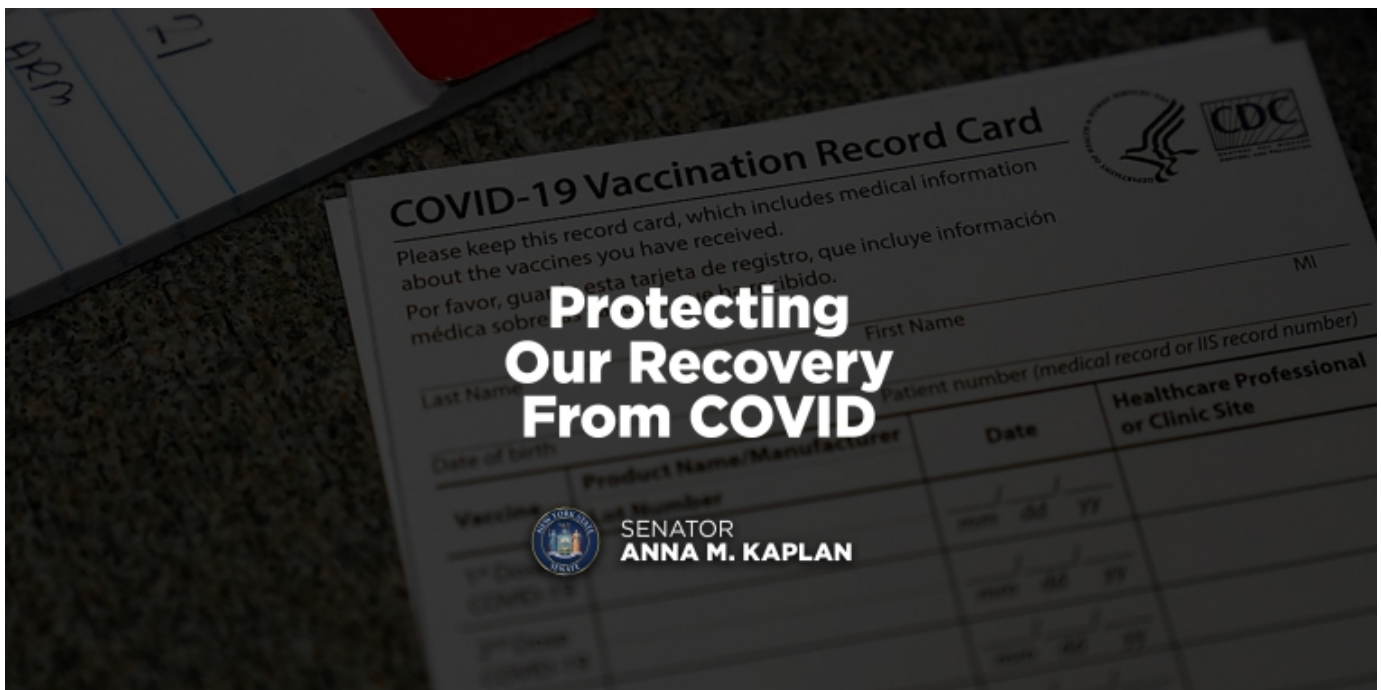
NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Anna M. Kaplan

## "Truth in Vaccination" Bill Protecting Vaxx Records From Fraud Passes NY State Senate

SEAN ROSS COLLINS June 3, 2021

| ISSUE: **COVID-19 VACCINATION, COMBATING MISINFORMATION, VACCINE MISINFORMATION, PUBLIC SAFETY, COMBATING COVID-19 AND PROTECTING NEW YORKERS' HEALTH**



*Cases of COVID vaccination record fraud have already been reported across NY, and anti-vaxx web forums are spreading tips for how to create fake cards*

CARLE PLACE, NY (June 3, 2021) - Today, the New York State Senate passed legislation by State Senator Anna M. Kaplan (D-North Hills) and Assemblymember Patricia Fahy (D-Albany), S.4516B, that would make the falsification of COVID-19 vaccination records a crime. The bill

passed at a critical time in the state's vaccination rollout and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, where officials are working diligently to ensure as many New Yorkers get vaccinated against COVID-19 as possible.

**Bill sponsor Senator Anna M. Kaplan** said "we're using vaccine cards and passports to make everything safer from baseball to Broadway, but the system relies on individuals being truthful about their vaccination status in order to keep everyone safe. We're already seeing anti-vaxxers spread tips online for how to create fake cards in order to get around vaccination mandates, and we need to put a stop to this effort to defraud the public so that our recovery from the pandemic can keep moving forward."

"I'm proud to sponsor this bill with Senator Anna Kaplan to further protect the public's health even in a post-pandemic world," said **Assemblymember Patricia Fahy**. "Those who seek to put our progress in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic at risk by fraudulently or otherwise altering proof of their immunizations pose a risk to individuals still at-risk of severe illness from COVID-19. This bill provides a strong deterrent to those who seek to game the system and send a message that New York State will not tolerate it."

**The bill, S.4516, will:**

- **Make it a crime to create a fraudulent COVID-19 vaccination card** by amending the legal definition of a "written instrument" to explicitly include a card provided to a person by a vaccine provider indicating the date a person received vaccination against COVID-19 as well as the type of vaccine and its lot number.
- **Make it a crime to create a fraudulent COVID-19 Vaccination Passport** by amending the penal law to create a crime of intentionally altering computer material to indicate that a person received a vaccination against COVID-19.

The bill passed the State Senate by a vote of 47 to 16 and now goes to the State Assembly for consideration.

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#### RELATED LEGISLATION

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## 2021-S4516B

vaccine card, anti vaccine, COMBATING COVID-19 VACCINE MISINFORMATION, Covid Vaccine

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- 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
  
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Makes the falsification of COVID-19 vaccination records a crime

February 05, 2021

Signed by Governor

Sponsored by [Anna M. Kaplan](#)

Do you support this bill?