

# SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATOR KARA HAHN



## FIFTH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

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### ***PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE PASSES GUN SAFETY MEASURE***

*Full Legislature to consider Hahn's Common Sense Gun Check Bill*

HAUPPAUGE, NY – The Suffolk County Legislature's Public Safety Committee this morning passed a bill meant to keep guns out of the hands of individuals who have been involuntarily transported to emergency rooms for psychiatric reasons. The Committee's vote will allow for the full 18 member body to consider the measure at its meeting on Tuesday.

If adopted, Legislator Kara Hahn's (D-Setauket) [Introductory Resolution 1121-2013](#) will mandate Suffolk law enforcement to cross reference the names and address of individuals who undergo a psychiatric crisis and are transported to Stony Brook University's [Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program](#) (CPEP) against Suffolk County's pistol license registries. If there is a match between the name or home address and the registry, that information will automatically be provided to the respective pistol licensing bureau, where an investigation can be made regarding suspension or revocation of the license.

After the bill's introduction in early February, Suffolk County Police adopted many of its provisions internally, considering it an effective tool to ward off violence at the hands of a

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potentially mentally unstable individual. Once adopted, the bill will codify the now informal policy and expand its use in areas outside of the Suffolk County Police District.

“This is a simple connect the dots measure,” Legislator Hahn said during the committee’s deliberations earlier today. “This is not a kneejerk reaction to recent mass shootings; this is a logical step. We are focusing in on the ones who have been identified as a threat to themselves or others.”

As state and federal governments continue to debate gun control measures in the wake of the Newtown, Connecticut and Aurora, Colorado shootings, it has been up to local lawmakers, like Legislator Hahn, to come up with common sense policies to protect public safety.

“Although policy makers across the nation continue to work on common sense gun control measures, I thought it was important to enact this law as quickly as possible. I want to ensure that this critical gap was closed now because each time we address a loophole, we potentially save lives,” said Legislator Hahn. “Any potential redundancy that may occur in the future, vis-à-vis state law, will only help to provide multiple layers of security and protection.”

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\*\*\*For previous press releases about this bill, please [click here](#).\*\*\*

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