

**From:** Scott, Christy  
**Sent:** Friday, April 27, 2012 2:50 PM  
**To:** Scott, Christy  
**Subject:** FW: Simu Gun Ban 3-5-12.doc

**Attachments:** image001.jpg  
**From:** Uhlinger, Dan  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 25, 2012 4:11 PM  
**To:** Osuba, Luz  
**Subject:** Simu Gun Ban 3-5-12.doc

here's the release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Uhlinger  
Monday, March 5, 2012  
8575

Contact: Dan  
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## REP. FAWCETT SEEKS STATE LEGISLATION BANNING SIMU GUNS

<http://youtu.be/tCIXZ0bCjw>

[k](#)

State Rep. **Kim Fawcett** (D-Fairfield, Westport), vice chairman of the legislature's Select Committee on Children, joined other legislators and police chiefs from around the state to push for legislation (HB 5220) banning so-called simu guns.

“The proposed legislation not only protects our kids, but also protects our public safety officials and helps eliminate the possibility of a tragic accident involving young people who purchase these guns for fun,” Fawcett said at a press conference Thursday at the state Capitol.

Simu guns or simulated guns are imitation firearms, usually toy guns, which have been altered to look as if they are real firearms. The proposed legislation would

prohibit altering imitation firearms to look like real guns. It would also ban look-a-like firearms, paintball guns, pellet-firing air guns and BB guns from school grounds.

“Over the years the line between fake and real guns has become quite small. Parents don’t realize this and it’s quite dangerous,” Fairfield Police Chief Gary MacNamara said after the press conference.

Citing the need for legislation, Stonington Police Chief Darren Stewart told the news conference about an incident in December where the police responded to a report of children on a school grounds with firearms. The responding officer arrived on the scene to discover a teenager holding what appeared to be a pistol at the head on another teenager. The officer pulled his service weapon and ordered the youth to drop the gun, but the youth hesitated. The officer had to order the youth to drop the gun a second time before the gun was dropped. It turned out that what appeared to be a pistol was not a firearm at all, but a realistic copy of a police service weapon with the colored tip, designating it as a fake, removed.

Stewart said that this wasn’t the first time Stonington police responded to a call concerning the presence of firearms only to discover that they were simu guns. He also discussed the tragedy earlier this week in Florida where police shot and killed a man wielding what the police thought was a real firearm.

“When parents see these toy guns they will be amazed at how real they look, they will quickly recognize that these weapons pose an extreme risk to our children,” Fawcett said, pointing to several simu guns on display at the press conference.

– END –

**Cutline for attached photo:** Simu guns on display at state Capitol press conference.

