



STATE OF WASHINGTON
— OFFICE OF GOVERNOR JAY INSLEE —

March 29, 2024

To the Honorable President and Members,
The Senate of the State of Washington

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am returning herewith, without my approval as to Section 6, Second Substitute Senate Bill No. 5784 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to deer and elk damage to commercial crops."

Although I support the three-year pilot study of elk herd damages to agricultural lands within Department of Fish and Wildlife's South Central Management Region, I am vetoing Section 6 because undertaking this study through statute is not the appropriate approach. I respectfully request the Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Yakama Nation to complete this pilot study by entering into a cooperative agreement to collar, monitor and haze elk that are depredate agricultural crops.

For these reasons I have vetoed Section 6 of Second Substitute Senate Bill No. 5784.

With the exception of Section 6, Second Substitute Senate Bill No. 5784 is approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Inslee
Governor