



Legislative Building
Olympia, WA 98504-0482

Washington State Senate

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December 22, 2022

RE: Chapter 1 Cropping Methods: Tillage and Residue Management

We are writing to comment on the Nonpoint Source plan as well as the chapters of the so-called Voluntary Clean Water Guidance that have been presented. Above all, our concern is that the hundreds of pages written claim to be voluntary guidance and simple research regarding Best Management Practices (BMP)'s. However, these documents represent overly broad recommendations that may be used to create overly restrictive regulations that threaten the rights of private property owners and threaten to take any functional or economic use of viable agricultural land.

The Tillage and Residue Management Practices in the document are currently practiced in this state. However, there are often barriers to implementation such as cost, feasibility, and practicability. Different farms need to utilize different management practices to accomplish the goal of preserving soil. Maintaining soil health and promoting carbon sequestration in soil is fundamentally important to ongoing agriculture.

In order to promote these types of management, it requires an immense amount of capital. In order to promote effective soil health, tillage, and residue management, there needs to be a way to aid farmers not cost them more money by imposing overly burdensome and arduous "Best Management Practices."

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judy Warnick".

Sen. Judy Warnick, Minority Caucus Chair, 13th District

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shelly Short".

Sen. Shelly Short, Minority Floor Leader, 7th District



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Mark A. Schoesler

Sen. Mark Schoesler, 9th District

Ronald E. Muzzall

Sen. Ron Muzzall, 10th District

Keith L. Wagoner

Sen. Keith Wagoner, 39th District