



**Australian Government**

**Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations**

Your Ref  
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**SOUTH AUSTRALIA  
STATE OFFICE**

Committee Secretary  
Education, Employment and Workplace Relations- Legislation Committee  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Secretary

I am writing in relation to the Education, Employment and Workplace Relations - Legislation Committee's 2011-12 Additional Estimates hearings on 16 February 2012.

I wish to correct an error in the advice provided to the Committee in response to a question from Senator the Hon Brett Mason at approximately 5.00 pm, concerning the application for an exemption from the minimum qualifications requirements for the National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program. In my answer I stated that the exemption applies only to schools in ARIA codes 4 and 5 (Remote and Very Remote). This answer does not directly reflect the program Guidelines, although it is consistent with the intent of the procedures implemented in support of those Guidelines.

In fact, Section 5.5.3, paragraph 4 of the Program Guidelines provides discretion to approve a request to waive the minimum qualifications requirements in regional and remote communities.

I would appreciate it if you could draw this fact to the attention of the Committee and I apologise for any inconvenience.

Yours sincerely

Chris Sheedy  
Branch Manager  
National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Branch  
Engagement and Wellbeing Group

02 March 2012