

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017**

**Outcome: Schools and Youth**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000346**

Senator Hanson-Young, Sarah provided in writing.

***School chaplains***

**Question**

Why chaplains and not social workers? What specific advantage do chaplains offer that social workers could not?

**Answer**

Specific student welfare services are best provided by state and territory governments and education authorities as part of their existing student welfare plans.

Chaplains are engaged to support the emotional wellbeing of students by providing pastoral care services; and strategies that support the emotional wellbeing of the broader school community.

There is nothing to stop states and territories also engaging the services of a social worker.