

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Steven George Xiarhos and Peter J. Durant

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to reimbursing cities, towns, and regional school districts for the costs of providing supportive services to migrants.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | DATE ADDED: |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Steven George Xiarhos</i> | <i>5th Barnstable</i> | <i>10/5/2023</i> |
| <i>Peter J. Durant</i> | <i>6th Worcester</i> | <i>10/5/2023</i> |
| <i>Michael J. Soter</i> | <i>8th Worcester</i> | <i>10/8/2023</i> |
| <i>David T. Vieira</i> | <i>3rd Barnstable</i> | <i>10/16/2023</i> |
| <i>Susan Williams Gifford</i> | <i>2nd Plymouth</i> | <i>11/1/2023</i> |

HOUSE No.

By Representatives Xiarhos of Barnstable and Durant of Spencer, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Steven George Xiarhos, Peter J. Durant and others relative to reimbursing cities, towns, and regional school districts for the costs of providing supportive services to migrants. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act relative to reimbursing cities, towns, and regional school districts for the costs of providing supportive services to migrants.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the
2 commonwealth shall reimburse every city, town, and regional school district for their actual and
3 documented costs of providing food, clothing, housing, health care, security and public safety,
4 education, and employment assistance to any migrant, refugee, or other person according to the
5 state of emergency declared by the Governor on August 8, 2023, including but not limited to any
6 person relocated to any city or town under the Massachusetts Refugee Resettlement Program
7 established by chapter 6 of the General Laws.

8 SECTION 2. The secretary of the executive office for administration and finance or his
9 designee shall, not less than monthly, report to the president of the senate, the speaker of the
10 house of representatives, the minority leader of the senate, the minority leader of the house of
11 representatives, and the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on ways and means on the

12 number of migrants who have been resettled by the commonwealth within each city or town
13 since January 1, 2023, together with an accounting of all costs incurred by the commonwealth
14 for supporting such migrants during the preceding month. Said monthly reports also shall contain
15 an accounting of the percentages of migrants being housed in publicly-owned buildings, hotels,
16 motels, and privately-owned buildings or residences within each city and town; provided, that
17 the secretary, within his discretion, shall be permitted to aggregate data when necessary to
18 prevent the personal identification of any migrant or family.