

# BEACON HILL BRIEF

September In-Review

October 11, 2023



Friends,

Welcome to the September edition of my monthly newsletter where you can review some of last month's highlights as your 5th Barnstable State Representative. For a more in-depth breakdown, I release a report every week sharing my weekly highlights across our district.

As always, my office remains committed to having constituent services as our number one priority. If you are having issues with Unemployment, the RMV, or any other state agency, please contact us directly and we will assist you in whatever way we can. I can be reached at my email:

Steven.Xiarhos@mahouse.gov or by phone: (617) 722-2488. Please do not hesitate to reach out.

Yours in Service,



## WELCOME

**2ND ANNUAL LABOR DAY WEEKEND  
COOKOUT IN SANDWICH**

9/1/23



**ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE EMILY  
ROSSETTI - MCALEER MEMORIAL  
GOLF TOURNAMENT**

9/9/23



**JOINT COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC  
SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY  
HEARING**

9/13/23



**POW-MIA RECOGNITION DAY  
GUEST SPEAKER AT ESSEX COUNTY  
SHERIFFS**

9/15/23



# CONTACT US:

*Email:*

Representative Xiarhos -  
Steven.Xiarhos@mahouse.gov

Legislative Aide  
Stuart Daniels:  
Stuart.Daniels@mahouse.gov

*Telephone:*

(617) 722-2488

*Mail:*

State Rep. Steve Xiarhos  
MA State House, Room 542  
24 Beacon Street  
Boston, MA 02133

# OFFICE HOURS:

Friday, October 27, 2023

West Barnstable Fire Station  
9:30 to 10:30 AM

Sandwich Public Library -  
MacKnight Room 11:00 AM to  
12:00 PM

Bourne Veterans Memorial  
Community Center 12:30 to 1:30  
PM

# SOCIAL MEDIA:

Facebook: @XiarhosForRep

Instagram: @XiarhosForRep

Twitter: @X4Barnstable5th

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BIKE RIDES FOR HOMES FUNDRAISER**

9/17/23



**COMMONWEALTH MANUFACTURER OF THE YEAR AWARDS WITH SANDWICH LANTERN**

9/19/23



**COMMUNITY TOWN HALL EVENT AT TOMATILLOS IN SANDWICH**

9/19/23



**COASTAL PATROL 18 CIVIL AIR PATROL ANNUAL AWARDS NIGHT**

9/30/23



**CONTACT US:**

*Email:*

Representative Xiarhos -  
Steven.Xiarhos@mahouse.gov

Legislative Aide Stuart Daniels:  
Stuart.Daniels@mahouse.gov

*Telephone:*

(617) 722-2488

*Mail:*

State Rep. Steve Xiarhos  
MA State House, Room 542  
24 Beacon Street  
Boston, MA 02133

**OFFICE HOURS:**

Friday, October 27, 2023

West Barnstable Fire Station  
9:30 to 10:30 AM

Sandwich Public Library -  
MacKnight Room 11:00 AM to  
12:00 PM

Bourne Veterans Memorial  
Community Center 12:30 to 1:30  
PM

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**

Facebook: @XiarhosForRep

Instagram: @XiarhosForRep

Twitter: @X4Barnstable5th

# On the Issues

## Cape Cod Times, "Your Turn" Guest Column.

*In light of recent events having occurred over the last month, I was pleased to author a "Your Turn" column in the Cape Cod Times. In this column, I explain my thoughts about illegal immigration and the need to secure our border and reform our state's "Right to Shelter" Law.*

Migrant crisis taxes local towns. Right to Shelter law must be reformed.

Massachusetts is dealing with an unprecedented crisis of migrants entering our state and seeking shelter and support here. It is a crisis that demands our instant attention, strains our public resources, threatens our livelihood, and which concerns me very, very deeply.

The root cause of the current situation is unquestionably abject failure on the federal level to secure our border and to enact meaningful immigration reform. This failure is frustrating and disappointing, as is the "open border" it has produced. As a patriotic American, I find these failures to be both unacceptable and unsustainable.

I am also an elected public official, and it is while looking at the problem through this lens that I acknowledge a responsibility to treat every person humanely and compassionately. I promised to represent all within my district equally, and I intend to uphold that promise.

However, it is both as a public official and as a former police officer, as one who is sworn to uphold our Constitution, that I also acknowledge a solemn obligation to respect our laws. Making our state a sanctuary for persons who entered our country illegally and giving those persons a slew of taxpayer-funded benefits is offensive to our laws and not something I support. The current situation is plainly wrong and cannot continue.

I have spoken with many involved in providing humanitarian support to these migrant families and several things are abundantly clear.

First, there is no plan on a federal or state level to adequately deal with this situation or to mitigate it. That is truly alarming.

Second, supporting migrants with shelter, food, health care, education, security, and

employment is far beyond the limited means of our Cape Cod communities and their taxpayers, and likewise should not be expected of Cape Codders or anyone else.

Third, there is a basic equity issue that exists whenever those who entered our country illegally are being given privileges to the preference of taxpayer citizens and those who immigrated legally and who still await citizenship. This is wrong.

Fourth, for reasons that have only to do with numbers, housing large transient populations in hotels and motels long-term is not only against state law but also inherently dangerous from a public safety and public health standpoint. To that end, I observe that we are mere months out of a heightened pandemic status, and also that lax federal enforcement makes it virtually impossible for us to distinguish between migrants innocently trying to forge a better life for their family, from migrants seeking legitimate amnesty from political persecution, from those seeking to capitalize on chaos to enter our country for nefarious intent. This is a huge concern.

I believe our state's Right to Shelter Law, adopted in the 1980s and being used now to deal with migrant populations, was not designed to address this situation. I have therefore joined colleagues to file legislation to clarify that this law is meant only to shelter citizens of our nation in time of need, not to play politics with federal immigration failures. I hope this bill will be passed soon.

We are a nation of immigrants. As someone who is proud of my Greek heritage, I warmly embrace that legacy. But I also respect that we are a nation of laws. We cannot, and should not, give cover and incentive to illegal entry into this nation by any person of any origin, ever. Legal immigration should be lauded; illegal immigration never should be sanctioned or rewarded. I worry that many choose to overlook that basic fact amidst the current situation and that long-term consequences will be dire.

# 2nd Annual Labor Day Cookout



Thank you to everyone who took the time to celebrate Labor Day Weekend 2023 with us last night at the Clark-Haddad American Legion Post 188 in historic Sandwich. So many people of all ages came together to listen to great live music, eat delicious food, and help support our mission of serving all 45,000 people in our great Fightin 5th District! In addition, we took time to recognize the citizens who helped save the life of Zohaib Malik-Mohammad—aka Little Z—and were also able to donate \$5,000 to Post Commander Raymond Tourville and the Clark-Haddad Post from Big Nick's Ride for the Fallen and the Nicholas G. Xiarhos Memorial Fund.



Special thanks to the Sandwich, Bourne, Barnstable, and Yarmouth Republican Town Committee members, Cape Cod Women's Republican Club, Cape Cod Republican Club, the incredible Not Your Average Cover Band, Big Nick's Ride for the Fallen Family, everyone who was able to make a contribution, David Sampson, Matt Levesque, Dan Miville, Dave Terrio, Cathy Long Anderson, Dawn Roche, Jim Matthews, Todd Jacobs, Jeff Johnson, Paul Sutton, Rick Alto, Jill Pimental, and all the great BNR Riders and so many others that helped make it all happen. I am forever grateful!!!

# Cape Cod Times Person of the Year!

I was beyond excited and honored to be chosen by the Cape Cod Times Community Choice Awards as their 2023 Person of the Year for Cape Cod during a special event at the Seacrest Resort on the beach in Falmouth. Thank you to all who chose me for this distinction and congrats to our other winners and small business owners. who were recognized. What an honor!



# JOIN US!

---



## OCTOBER OFFICE HOURS

---

Friday, October 27, 2023

- West Barnstable Fire Station
  - 9:30am-10:30am
- Sandwich Public Library (MacKnight Room)
  - 11:00am-12:00pm
- Bourne Veterans Memorial Community Center
  - 12:30pm-1:30pm



Email Contacts:  
[Steven.Xiarhos@mahouse.gov](mailto:Steven.Xiarhos@mahouse.gov)  
[Stuart.Daniels@mahouse.gov](mailto:Stuart.Daniels@mahouse.gov)

Office Phone Number:  
(617) 722 - 2488

---

To schedule a meeting with Rep. Xiarhos,  
please email his Legislative Aide, Stuart,  
at [Stuart.Daniels@mahouse.gov](mailto:Stuart.Daniels@mahouse.gov) or call (617) 722 -2488