Written by Mike Honda
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On September 11th, 2001, and the weeks following, the clouds of terrorism and hate were pushed back by the light of our nation's brave rescuers and recovery workers. Men and women from every state in the Union came to Ground Zero and risked their lives in hopes of saving those trapped below the rubble. While selflessly searching and digging their countrymen and countrywomen out, often working night and day, many of these heroes were exposed to toxins that have attacked their bodies and now leave them sick or terminally ill. The James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act, appropriately named for the first hero who died from a 9/11 related health illness, will provide the thousands of the sick responders and survivors with medical monitoring, treatment, and compensation. As a long time supporter of this important legislation, I am relieved to see that this overdue bill passed Congress and was sent to President Obama's desk. May we never forget our heroes of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.