Washington, DC – *Today, Congressman Mike Honda (CA-15) issued the following statement on the fifth anniversary of the September 11th, 2001 terrorist attacks upon the United States*:

"As we mark one of the saddest moments in American history, the people of California's 15th Congressional District join with all Americans in mourning the loss of thousands of their brothers and sisters at the hands of craven terrorists, and in honoring the first responders, soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen who selflessly put their lives on the line in defense of the nation.

"The greatest tribute we may pay the victims of September 11th, 2001 and the sacrifices of our servicemembers is to ensure, at long last, an effective homeland security system that truly protects the lives of our citizens and integrity of our critical infrastructure without scapegoating loyal Americans and immigrants of Middle Eastern and Muslim background. America's inevitable triumph over terrorism hinges on unrelenting battle against extremism, be it from abroad or from within."