

more serious issues at stake in Western Sahara concerning terrorism, and trafficking in persons, guns, drugs and other contraband.

Morocco has met the State Department's criteria for enhanced human rights protection and reporting, and should be applauded for taking this initiative as part of its continuing reform process and desire to improve the lives of all Moroccans, including the Western Sahara. Morocco is working hard to become the standard bearer for progress, reform, and development in the region. We should do all we can to support these vital efforts.

CELEBRATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COAST GUARD TRAINING CENTER PETALUMA

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2011

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise with great pride today to honor Coast Guard Training Center Petaluma on the occasion of its 40th anniversary.

Originally known as Two Rock Ranch Station, the 876-acre site was purchased by the U.S. Army for \$97,377 in 1942 and used as an electronic intercept station in World War II. There were two officers and 45 enlisted men assigned to it. Two Rock's use was expanded during the Vietnam War to include training, with a re-created Vietnamese village.

The Coast Guard took ownership of the facility in 1971, renaming it "Coast Guard Training Center Petaluma" and transferring the Subsistence Specialist School, Storekeeper School, and Radioman School from New York. Since that time, two barracks have been built (Steadman Hall and Horsley Hall) as well as 15 duplex housing units to provide affordable housing to the workforce. Several other buildings for use in training were also constructed (Bauer Building, Juliet-Nichols Building, and Haley Hall). The current replacement value of the facility is close to \$245 million.

During the 1990s, Coast Guard Training Center Petaluma was threatened with closure twice as the U.S. reevaluated its bases. The local community rallied in support, and I was able to work with them and with Coast Guard officials to keep this important facility open.

Today, the Center is home to seven "A" schools for electronics, technician, food service specialist, health service technician, information system technician, operation specialist, storekeeper and Yeoman. There are also 40 "C" schools and a Chief Petty Officer Academy. With a permanently assigned cadre of 500 active duty, civilian, and contractor staff, the facility supports more than 15,000 students per year.

Coast Guard Training Center Petaluma truly embodies its vision: To be a world leader in valid and reliable performance-based training; to be the best place to live and work in the Coast Guard; to be the best and most efficient steward of resources (money and property) in the Coast Guard training system; and to be the most environmentally-friendly Coast Guard base in the world. Having recently attended an event to throw the switch on solar panels that now provide much of the Center's electricity, I have seen first-hand how serious this vision is.

Mr. Speaker, Coast Guard Training Center Petaluma is important to the local community

and important to our country. Please join me in congratulating the Coast Guard on the facility's 40th anniversary and wishing it many more years of service.

OPPOSITION TO H.R. 2587, PROTECTING JOBS FROM THE GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE ACT

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2011

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, despite the bill's colorful title, the Protecting Jobs from Government Interference Act (H.R. 2587) is a blatant attempt to declear the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) and weaken the rights of American workers. Created in 1935 by the enactment of the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA), the NLRB oversees the process by which employees form unions and enforces fair labor provisions against violations committed by private sector employers and unions. H.R. 2587 would strip the NLRB's ability to punish businesses for unlawfully relocating or dissolving jobs in retaliation for union organization, and thus eliminate the NLRB's only meaningful enforcement tool to protect working Americans under the National Labor Relations Act.

H.R. 2587 was authored by Representative TIM SCOTT of South Carolina to prevent the NLRB's ongoing case against the Boeing Company for allegedly violating federal labor laws by opening a non-union passenger plane production facility in South Carolina, rather than in the state of Washington, from moving forward. According to the NLRB, it has evidence that Boeing intentionally moved its facilities to a non-union state in retaliation against unionized workers in Washington. By law, employers may move their facilities to non-union states, but it is illegal for employers to retaliate against employees for exercising their federally-protected right to strike. Whether or not Boeing's actions were illegal is a matter to be decided, but not by politicians.

While millions of Americans are struggling to find employment, the Protecting Jobs from Government Interference Act would neither create nor protect jobs as the title claims. On the contrary, H.R. 2587 would weaken American workers' rights and reduce the number of U.S. jobs by legalizing company reprisals against unions through the dissolution or transfer of jobs to non-union sites elsewhere in the United States and, even more worrisome, somewhere overseas.

As a stalwart advocate for American workers, I cannot support efforts that would take away an important tool in helping to ensure that employers do not violate the law by retaliating against unionized employees. Our nation is stronger when workers join together and bargain for a better life, and when employers respect those rights. To that end, I have long supported efforts in Congress to protect and strengthen the right of American workers in every industry to collective bargaining. While I imagine the dispute between the NLRB and the Boeing Company will be worked out, in the meantime, Congress should not interfere with important legal protections for union workers that are already in place. For these reasons, I am strongly opposed to H.R. 2587.

THE HONOR FLAG—10TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11 ATTACKS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 29, 2011

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in less than one month, Americans will observe the 10th anniversary of the September 11th terror attacks. Those who witnessed the events of September 11th will always remember that day and what they were doing. It's like those of us that were alive when President Kennedy was assassinated. We remember that day; we remember what we were doing. And the old timers, they remember Pearl Harbor and what they were doing on December 7, 1941. September 11th is a day that we as a Nation should always remember because it reminds us of the preciousness of this Nation and her belief in freedom and liberty. It is something that is without a doubt worth preserving.

As we remember where we were on that fateful day, it is even more important that we remember the 3,000 individuals that lost their lives that day. Many who lost their lives were heroes trying to rescue those trapped by the attacks. When those Twin Towers were set aflame, those volunteers, those firefighters, those emergency medical folks and those police officers, they rushed as hard as they could to get to that terror from the sky. As a result of their heroism, many got to live another day. There are countless stories of the selfless bravery which occurred on 9/11, how Americans reacted extraordinarily in order to rescue one and other. In the face of attack, we pulled through with a remarkable spirit of unity and compassion that swept through our country.

Shortly after the tragic September 11, 2001 attacks on our great Country, Americans all over the world raised up 'old glory' in patriotic understanding of the events which had just befallen our country. The American Flag has always been a symbol of bringing our Nation together in good times or bad. One of these many flags was the symbol of our Nation's perseverance, was the Flag which was flown over Ground Zero. Still today this flag continues to fly, all around this great Nation in support of our heroes, because of Texas Patriot, Chris Heisler.

In the aftermath of September 11th, Chris Heisler, like many other Americans felt compelled to take action after witnessing his country come under attack. When Chris was gifted this patriotic flag by Texas House of Representatives, he helped organize one of the longest police motorcades in the history of the United States to honor it. The American flag is a symbol to revere, respect, and honor and Chris' profound respect for America's symbol should be commended.

Following the 9/11 terrorist attacks, patriotism surged in the United States. Many young men and women enlisted to help fight the war on terrorism. Chris Heisler was part of this movement, and at the age of 34 he put his business career on hold to enlist in the U.S. Army. While serving his country, Chris carried his revered flag with him to Kuwait, Qatar, and Iraq so it could fly with soldiers in combat zones.

Soon soldiers began to refer to this flag as one of honor, as a result the flag is now named the United States Honor Flag. Ten