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Washington, D.C. -- Rep. Anna G. Eshoo, D-Palo Alto, announced today that the Air Force has informed her that the National Guard Bureau has decided to remove from consideration their request to transfer the 129th Rescue Wing (RQW) from Moffett Federal Airfield to Castle Airport, a closed Air Force Base located in Merced County.

"Today, I'm honored and thrilled to announce that common sense has finally prevailed and we can now say to the men and women of the 129th Rescue Wing, Moffett Federal Airfield will remain your home," Eshoo said.

Moving the 129th RQW would have forced the relocation of scores of unit members who didn't wish to leave their homes and jobs, wasted millions of taxpayer dollars, left the Bay Area more vulnerable in the event of a disaster, and increased the likelihood of a BRAC closure or realignment of the unit.

Air Force officials had been reviewing the proposal to move the unit and after extensive discussions and investigation, their counterparts in the National Guard Bureau have finally concluded that the money to transfer the unit is simply not available and the proposal to move the unit could leave the unit vulnerable to BRAC Closure.

Eshoo visited with members of the unit on July 12, 2003 and made a commitment to them that she would do everything in her power to keep them at Moffett Federal Airfield.

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