

it could drastically reduce our imports of rare Earth minerals that often come from the darkest corners of our world.

At the same time, DuPont was winning \$9 million from ARPA-E for its research into seaweed-based biobutanol.

What is biobutanol, my colleagues may ask. The answer is that biobutanol is an advanced fuel designed for use in place of gasoline.

We have heard a lot about ethanol and how it can transform our energy landscape and it will play a very significant role—and already does.

But it is not flawless. It tends to be corrosive, meaning that we cannot use our existing pipeline infrastructure and that we must retrofit our vehicles.

At the same time, it has a lower energy density than gasoline—in other words, fewer miles per gallon.

Biobutanol may very well have fixed those problems. It has nearly the energy density of gasoline and is much less corrosive than ethanol. And now, thanks to research from DuPont and others, we are learning how to make it from seaweed.

Imagine a scalable source of biomass—solar-powered, low-carbon bioenergy—that does not take up existing arable land or demand potable water.

Imagine a fuel built from that source that operates like conventional gasoline.

Wouldn't that be a big step forward for addressing our climate challenges and for ensuring that tomorrow's vehicles will be powered by American ideas?

And DuPont is leading in several other fields. It is an innovator in thin-film solar panels, cellulosic ethanol, and fuel cells.

Across town, W.L. Gore, whom we all know for the miracle fabric Gore-Tex, is a market leader in the membranes essential for fuel cells.

If we hope to move someday to a hydrogen vehicle, and I do, we will need their expertise and excellence.

Perhaps the most significant renewable energy project underway in Delaware, however, is actually happening just outside of Delaware. It is happening in our ocean.

A company called Bluewater Wind is leading the way in developing offshore wind power in the United States.

In countries like Denmark and the United Kingdom, they have already recognized that the abundant ocean breezes provide a vast, constant, renewable source of electricity. It is time for us to catch up.

In fact, the Delaware offshore wind park will be larger than all offshore wind farms currently in existence, although other large farms are being planned and built in other countries.

What it will be is America's first.

In fact, Delaware yesterday hosted the Nation's first Federal offshore renewable energy task force meeting.

When the Department of Energy has concluded that offshore wind can meet 70 percent of all domestic electricity needs, how can we afford to ignore this resource?

And when nations around the world have wind, waves, and electricity demand, shouldn't we try to claim the leadership position in this technology?

That is why I am glad that the Federal Government, by providing the right incentives for wind power, and the State of Delaware, by working with Bluewater to ensure that there will be demand for that power, have convinced Bluewater Wind that Delaware is the place to start.

Mr. President, I could name hundreds of other areas where Delaware and Delawareans are leading the way in creating tomorrow's jobs.

We are installing combined heat and power projects to increase the efficiency of a chemical factory and of a community college. Our port is aiming to revamp its infrastructure to take advantage of green technologies that will make it cleaner and cheaper to operate.

We have set up an innovative new financing mechanism, the Sustainable Energy Utility, that will help get clean technologies through the so-called "valley of death." Even our schools are getting in on the act, installing solar panels on gymnasium rooftops.

We have small start up companies that are leading the way on a whole host of technologies, from less toxic disinfectants to safety reflectors, windmills and biofuels to recycling old carpet.

Companies like ILC Dover, that manufacture components of space suits, are leading the way in developing advanced materials, while CMI Electric, a solar panel seller and installer, has a banner on its Web site that says "We are hiring apply here." We need more of those five words.

I congratulate the leaders of my State, in industry and government, in academia and private life, for recognizing that the future of our economy and, thus, the legacy we leave future generations depends on leading the way on green technologies and in green industries.

#### GOLDSTONE REPORT

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, my colleague in the New York State Assembly, Alec Brook-Krasny, wrote two letters regarding the United Nations fact finding mission led by Justice Richard Goldstone, the Goldstone Report. Assembly Member Brook-Krasny represents the significant Russian speaking community of New York. He voiced the concerns of our constituents in writing to the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs Lavrov to raise concerns about Russia's vote in favor of the recommendations in the Goldstone Report. Likewise, he represented the community's views in voicing appreciation of Ukraine's vote along with the United States against adoption of the report's recommendations.

I commend Assembly Member Brook-Krasny for his leadership on this issue. I and a bipartisan group of 31 other

Senators sent a letter of concern about the bias and flaws in the original mandate and ultimate recommendations of the Goldstone Report. We commended the State Department's leadership on this issue. As the report moves forward for consideration by the United Nations General Assembly, I believe it is important that the United States continue to do what it can to ensure that the Goldstone Report is not used unfairly and cynically to condemn Israel without looking at all of the facts and events leading to the conflict.

I ask unanimous consent that the attached letters from New York State Assembly Member Alec Brook-Krasny to Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs Lavrov and Ukrainian Minister of Foreign Affairs Poroshenko, respectively, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

THE ASSEMBLY, STATE OF NEW YORK,  
Albany, NY, October 23, 2009.

H.E. SERGEY LAVROV,  
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Russian Federation,  
Moscow.

DEAR MINISTER LAVROV: First, I would like to note that although foreign relations is not a part of my job description as a member of the New York State Assembly, I found it impossible to ignore an event that has seriously concerned more than ten thousand of my constituents—natives of the former USSR.

I write to you in regards to the recent vote at the United Nations Human Rights Council. Russia has voted in favor of endorsing the conclusions of former South African Judge Richard Goldstone's commission. The report states that antiterrorist operations in Gaza in January 2009 by Israel should be considered as war crimes and deliberate destruction of civilian population. The Goldstone Report mentions some anonymous armed groups, but it says nothing about eight years of the daily firing of rockets at civilians in the south of Israel by Hamas and other terrorists.

I consider the decision of the Russian Government to endorse the Goldstone Report at the UN Human Rights Council deeply troubling. This decision is directed not only against Israel; it significantly reduces Israel's ability to protect its citizens, including the thousands of Russian citizens living today in Israel.

Support of Goldstone's report by the Human Rights Council has surprised and aggravated many people, including one of founders of Human Rights Watch, Robert Bernstein. On October 19, 2009, New York Times published his article in which he condemned this one-sided report. Even Richard Goldstone himself, in a recent interview with the Swiss newspaper *Le Temps*, has recognized that in his report "there is no phrase with condemnation of Hamas".

The decision of the UN Human Rights Council will have a negative effect on the continuation and development of the peace process in the Middle East. In the resolution approved by 25 out of 47 members of Human Rights Council, there is no mention of the criminal and terrorist characteristics of Hamas activity. In addition, nothing is mentioned about the long-term bombardments of Sderot and other cities of Israel from Gaza prior to the IDF operation. During eight years of incessant rocket bombardments of Israeli territory, the United Nations kept silent and never adopted a resolution protecting Israeli civilians. When Israel finally

decided to end the bombardment of its cities, the Human Rights Council endorsed a resolution that demonized Israel and its army in the eyes of the international community.

The resolution supported by Russia undermines the interests of those moderate forces in the Palestinian autonomy which would be willing to establish peace with Israel. Goldstone's one-sided report strengthens Hamas's position and sharply weakens the position of the Palestinian government led by Mahmud Abbas. As a result of the Human Rights Council's resolution, the "Hezbollah-Syria-Iran" Axis, has gained support, legitimacy and international approval.

Additionally, Goldstone's report has strengthened Israel's belief that all of their attempts to negotiate a peace with the Palestinian Arabs, including voluntary withdrawal from Gaza and other territorial concessions, will always be ignored by the international community. At the same time, reciprocal steps against terrorists will lead to condemnation by the United Nations.

Lastly, approval of Goldstone's report will lead to new problems in the struggle against terrorism. In Gaza, Hamas and Jihad widely applied the tactic of using civilians as a "human shield". Thus, the resolution of the Human Rights Council has actually proven this is a successful form of terrorist activity. This resolution will complicate the struggle of civilized countries against terrorist activity. It is surprising that Russia, whose citizens constantly suffer from actions of terrorism, has voted for the resolution, thereby justifying these "human shield" tactics.

Russian-speaking Americans have a number of close relatives and friends in Israel. But there is another reason for our anxiety about the unilateral position of the UN Human Rights Council. Israel is a deeply peaceful country, the only democracy in the Middle East, surrounded by autocratic regimes. In Israel, more than 80 human rights organizations freely operate, a free press exists, and the judicial system often rules against other branches of its government. There are many political parties, democratic elections, liberal journalists, a politically active and creative scientific community, and independent courts. This is the country accused of deliberate attacks against civilians and crimes against humanity?

In the last few years Israel has undertaken many steps for rapprochement with Russia, including the canceling of visa requirements for Russian tourists. I was born and raised in Moscow, and still hope that Russia will become a strategic partner of Israel and will not always automatically vote in the United Nations, as the USSR did, for anti-Israel resolutions. We in America hope that the Russian government aspires to achieve peace in the Middle East, instead of creating new problems and conflicts. A country of such great culture and greater human achievements cannot be on a par with rogue countries such as Iran, Venezuela, North Korea, and Syria.

I thank you for your attention to this matter, and I hope to receive a concrete and constructive answer to this letter.

Respectfully,

ALEC BROOK-KRASNY,  
*Member of the Assembly, 46th District.*

THE ASSEMBLY, STATE OF NEW YORK,  
*Albany, NY, October 23, 2009.*

H.E. PETRO POROSHENKO,  
*Minister of Foreign Affairs,  
Kyiv, Ukraine.*

YOUR EXCELLENCY: I am writing to express my deep appreciation to your Government and to you personally, for voting against the one-sided resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council in Geneva early this month. I express this appreciation also on behalf of

my constituency, which is comprised of thousands of immigrants from Ukraine to the U.S. who now live in the district that I represent at the New York State Assembly. I am especially satisfied by the principled stance of your government, as I know that the most respected American Jewish organization, AJC, urged your predecessor to take this position at their meeting with the Ukrainian delegation in New York last month.

Regrettably, this harmful resolution was endorsed by the majority of 47 members of the Council, but the vote taken by Ukrainian Government, and other democratic nations, underscores the moral bankruptcy of that resolution. As you know, the resolution endorses the recommendations contained in the Goldstone report, which seeks to set the international community in a comprehensive political campaign against Israel. I trust that Ukrainian Government will continue to oppose attempts to single out and censure Israel in the international arena.

By voting against the endorsement of Goldstone report your government decided to be in the minority rather than forsake its values. We salute your government for adhering to this noble principle.

Respectfully,

ALEC BROOK-KRASNY,  
*Member of the Assembly, 46th District.*

#### GLOBAL CHILD SURVIVAL ACT

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I wish to speak in support of the Global Child Survival Act of 2009, which I introduced earlier this week along with Senators CORKER and DURBIN.

I do so in the hopes that the United States will take these important steps towards living up to its obligation as the world's wealthiest nation.

Ours is a moral obligation, of course; reducing mortality rates for children in developing areas of the world is within our grasp. We—we in this very body—have the power to save millions of innocent and vulnerable lives.

Ours is also a literal obligation. As part of the Millennium Development Goals, the United States has made an explicit commitment—along with 188 other nations—to doing its part to reach this goal.

To date, we have made significant progress and improved the lives of tens of thousands of individuals. But unless we bring to bear the full force of our knowledge, our creativity, our compassion, and our commitment to implementing effective strategies, we will ultimately fail to keep our promise to millions around the world who need us.

I can't accept that.

Not when nearly 9 million children under the age of five die every year—more than 24,000 every day. That is a number equal to the population of South Windsor, CT, dying every day—mostly from preventable and treatable causes like pneumonia, diarrhea, malaria, and sepsis.

Not when nearly 4 million newborns every year die in the first 4 weeks of life.

Not when 2.5 million children die each year from diseases for which vaccines are readily available.

Not when it is clear that simply by living up to the commitments we have

already made, to say nothing of furthering our commitments, we could save so many lives so easily.

This is a moral imperative. But it is also a strategic imperative. The state of a country's public health is inextricably linked to its security. Poor health systems around the world represent a danger to America. Last year, the Director of National Intelligence reported as follows:

Chronic, non-communicable diseases; neglected tropical diseases; maternal and child mortality; malnutrition; sanitation and access to clean water; and availability of basic health-care also affect the US national interest through their impacts on the economies, governments, and militaries of key countries and regions.

Countries with high child and maternal mortality are inherently less stable and more prone to violence. The consequences of failing to live up to our commitments under the Millennium Development Goals will be felt around the world.

These goals are not beyond our reach. Already, the increased distribution of simply technologies like mosquito nets and basic vaccinations has reduced child mortality to its lowest level since we began keeping track of the statistics in 1960.

Simple efforts like distributing bed nets and micronutrients are saving 10,000 children a day.

But our success to date is not an excuse for complacency going forward. There is more we can do.

We could save 1.4 million newborns by encouraging exclusive breast feeding for the first 6 months of life.

We could cut in half newborn mortality and reduce maternal mortality simply by providing basic childbirth assistance—things like clean equipment and trained attendants.

If we make simple remedies like oral rehydration therapy for diarrhea and antibiotics for respiratory infections available in accordance with the Millennium Development Goals, we could cut the child mortality rate by two-thirds, saving nearly 6 million lives a year.

The legislation requires the administration to develop and implement a strategy to improve the health of, and reduce mortality rates among, newborns and children in developing countries.

It supports effective, life-saving programs to provide children and mothers with basic minerals and vitamins that we daily take for granted, and it takes on the scourge of easily treatable and preventable diseases such as pneumonia and cholera.

It empowers young girls by helping them get good educations, and protects them from abusive practices such as female genital cutting.

It establishes a task force to monitor and evaluate the progress of government agencies responsible for ensuring that we meet our commitment to the Millennium Development Goals.