

We increased funding for scientific and technological research. And we established ARPA-E—modeled on the Defense Department's Advanced Research Project Agency, the one that started the Internet—but aimed this time specifically at advanced research projects on energy.

Just 2 months ago I attended ARPA-E's Inaugural Energy Innovation Summit, at which more than 50 innovators from around the country presented the prototypes of what we hope will be the next generation of energy innovation.

Some of these ideas are truly exciting. We saw designs for a "Metal-Air" battery that could have a 1000-mile range that would be 10 times what our best car batteries can get today. We saw plans for converting waste gas from refineries to gasoline that could save us 46 million barrels of oil each year. We saw projects for using sunlight and electricity to convert carbon dioxide back to gasoline and a "self-digesting" biofuels plant that uses enzymes to convert cellulose plant material to a gasoline substitute.

But there are still other areas where we must forge ahead. What about these new small modular reactors? Companies like Toshiba, Babcock & Wilcox, and Hyperion all have plans for reactors that are so small they can serve as "nuclear batteries." They are assembled at the factory and shipped to the site, where they are fitted together like Lego blocks. They have a lower cost of entry which is important for smaller utilities. We already have reactors like this aboard our submarines and aircraft carriers. We have done this for more than 50 years. Why not put a 125-megawatt reactor back in Oak Ridge, TN, where it would power the entire site and meet one-half of the Department of Energy's carbon footprint reduction goal? The people of East Tennessee are not afraid of nuclear power.

With Senator JAMES WEBB of Virginia I have introduced a clean energy bill that calls for building 100 new nuclear reactors in the next 20 years to secure our energy future while cutting our carbon emissions and keeping energy prices low. With Senators JEFF MERKLEY of Oregon and BYRON DORGAN of North Dakota I have introduced a bill that would set up 10 model communities around the country to develop the infrastructure needed to support electric cars. Forty Republican Senators support the proposition of electrifying half our cars and trucks as a way to reduce our carbon footprint even further and reduce our dependence on foreign oil. The recent tragedy of the oilspill in the gulf has only highlighted the need to begin this effort.

Still, we have a formidable task ahead of us. In 2008, 1 year after passage of the America COMPETES Act, Norman Augustine wrote an article in Science Magazine. Since The Gathering Storm had been published, he noted, many new developments had occurred in science and education. A new research university was established in Saudi Arabia, with an opening endowment equal to what the Massachusetts

Institute of Technology had amassed after 142 years. 200,000 Chinese students were studying abroad, mostly pursuing science or engineering degrees, often under government scholarships. Government investment in R&D increased by 25 percent—in the United Kingdom. An initiative was under way to create a global nanotechnology hub—in India. An additional \$10 billion was being devoted to K-12 education, with emphasis on math and science—in Brazil. Another \$3 billion was added to the nation's research budget—in Russia.

So it is still a competitive world out there. A study done far back in the 1950s determined that 85 percent of the per capita income growth in American history has occurred, not because of increasing capital stock or other measurable inputs, but because of technological innovation.

As educators and scientists, I know you are aware of how important your work is to America's economic future. And I am sure you are ready to join us in this effort.

TRIBUTE TO KATY LESSER

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Katy Lesser of Underhill, VT, for being named Vermont's 2010 Small Business Person of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Lesser is the owner of Healthy Living, a natural and organic food store in South Burlington, VT. In its 23 years of business, Healthy Living has grown from humble beginnings into a new 33,000-square-foot market with a staff of 130 employees. Healthy Living also is a leader in Vermont's sustainability movement by promoting a diverse and vibrant selection of locally grown foods and locally made products.

I had the pleasure of meeting Katy and her adult children, Eli and Nina, when they were in Washington this week for the national awards ceremony. Working at the store is a family affair, and they all put in long hours to make it go. I wish them well when they take a much needed vacation to Ireland.

Once again, I commend Katy Lesser on this well-deserved honor. I ask unanimous consent that a March 29 article from The Burlington Free Press on Katy's accomplishments be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From the Burlington Free Press, Mar. 29, 2010]

HEALTHY LIVING OWNER KATY LESSER NAMED VERMONT'S SBA PERSON OF YEAR
(By Myra Mathis Flynn)

It's your neighborhood grocery store that packs a healthy punch. Located at 222 Dorset St., Healthy Living is the natural and organic food store with a well-known community outreach program, cooking classes and fully stocked bulk section.

Starting at 1,200 square feet with only one employee and average earnings of \$300 a day, Healthy Living has grown over a period of 23 years into a 33,000-square-foot market with a staff of 130 employees, and average daily sales of \$50,000. Leading the market to suc-

cess has been owner Katy Lesser. Now, she is being recognized for it.

Lesser has been named the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2010 Vermont Small Business Person of the Year. Nominated by David Blow Jr., vice president of Granite State Development Corp. in Burlington, Lesser was selected for outstanding leadership related to her company's staying power, employee growth, increase in sales, innovative ingenuity and contributions to the community, the SBA said. Recession aside, Lesser's sales for 2009 were more than \$17 million.

Lesser was quick to share the credit.

"I attribute my passion for food and people, tenacity, patience, being part of a terrific industry, willingness to learn, being a risk-taker, and a fabulous, amazing staff to my success," Lesser said. "Bottom line, you have to want to get up and do it all over again every day."

Healthy Living was also at the forefront of the localvore movement as Lesser's long-term relationships with local farmers has stocked the market with local fruits, vegetables, meats, poultry, dairy products and more. The market also acts as an incubator for small, local culinary producers and carries products from more than 1,000 Vermont producers.

In 2008, Healthy Living uprooted and moved to its current location. The move and expansion was a risk, but one that Lesser was not shy to take.

"I believe it's just as risky to be too small as it is to be too big. So when I decided to expand, I did a lot of research all over the country to see what other natural foods markets were up to," Lesser said. "I traveled all over the country and got a good sense of what was working and what was not. I wanted space for more product, of course, but I also wanted space for customers to meet, eat, hang out, learn and have a sense of community meeting place. I think I did that."

Lesser is gradually turning the business over to her two children, both of whom returned to Vermont following college and jobs elsewhere. Lesser's 32-year-old son, Eli, a graduate of Brandeis University, is Healthy Living's chief operating officer. Her 26-year-old daughter, Nina, a graduate of George Washington University and the French Culinary Institute in New York, is the store's education coordinator and director of the market's newest venture, the Healthy Living Learning Center.

As Vermont's Small Business Person of the Year, Lesser will compete for the national title at National Small Business Week ceremonies May 23-25 in Washington, D.C. The U.S. Small Business Administration will honor her locally June 17 at a ceremony sponsored by the SBA and Vermont Business Magazine at the Shelburne Farms Coach Barn.

"More than ever, I believe a good leader serves—serves her customers, her staff, her vendors and her truck drivers. Love of true service makes every day a joy because there is a never-ending list of people to help in many, many ways," Lesser said. "It's an honor to serve a community like ours. I've experienced more loyalty and energy from our community than I ever dreamed possible."

BAYVIEW CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Bayview, Idaho, a beautiful