

sector costs of the Y2K crisis reaches tens of billions of dollars in the United States alone.

Private sector costs are likely to be as high. The Gartner Group estimates that a mid-sized company with 8,000 computer programs will spend between \$3.6 million and \$4.2 million to repair "date challenged" software.

Who's left paying the bill? Surprise: first and foremost, the taxpayer. Then, either in the courts or by negotiation, the rest of the pain of solving the problem is likely to be shared by vendors, users and consumers. And the longer a company or an agency waits, the more it will cost. At the start of 1999, the cost will be three times that of starting today, because the supply of trained programmers able to fix the problem will not keep up with demand.

Once the alien in the movie made the Earth stand still, he convened the leaders of the world to a meeting in front of his space ship. The Earth's leaders told him they now believed in his powers and promised to destroy all the planet's nuclear weapons forthwith. But as soon as the alien left, they went back to their old habits of building more.

The real-life inhabitants of a planet that is so dependent on computers might take a lesson from that. Having let the technology experts put one past us this time, we shouldn't let them do it again.●

#### RECLAMATION RECYCLING AND WATER CONSERVATION ACT

● Mr. REID. Mr. President, I want to express my support for the Reclamation Recycling and Water Conservation Act, S. 1901, and its companion bill, H.R. 3660, that promotes the desalination and water reclamation projects in the arid West. I have long supported water reclamation and desalination as a means of conserving water which is a precious commodity in Nevada and other Western States.

In the past, with the senior Senator from Illinois [Senator SIMON], I have advocated legislation that would authorize desalination technology research on a national scale. Public investment in desalination technology is vital to the future of fresh water supply of the Nation. Nevertheless, I support this regional legislation because of the special water needs of NV, Utah, California, and New Mexico. I particularly note that this bill will provide for Clark County, NV, the fastest growing county in the Nation, to reduce its dependence on fresh water from the Colorado River and rely on desalination and wastewater recycling to meet the needs of the expanding community. This approach by Clark County and other Western communities to their water problems appears to be insightful recognition of the limited fresh water resources of the West.

This legislation is good common sense and I commend my colleague from Utah [Senator BENNETT], for his sponsorship. Not only does reclamation and reuse make good conservation policy but will also prove cost effective because it will cost less for municipalities to provide for recycling than to build new reservoirs and conduits. Consequently, there should not be any opposition to a bill that encourages con-

servations initiatives as well as fiscal responsibility of municipalities and Federal assistance.

I recommend this authorizing bill to my colleagues for unanimous consent so that the Secretary of the Interior can initiate such planning, designing, and construction of the projects that are itemized within the bill.●

#### NATIONAL PAYROLL WEEK

● Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today during National Payroll Week to recognize the contributions to American businesses and workers that are regularly made by payroll professionals. I am proud to participate in National Payroll Week by paying tribute to the professionals who pay the wages, report the earnings, and withhold the taxes of over 124 million American workers annually.

Payroll departments collectively withhold, report, and deposit nearly \$880 billion in taxes on behalf of the Federal Government alone. They spend more than \$15 billion each year just to comply with the huge web of Federal, State, and local wage and tax laws and an additional \$6 billion annually complying with Federal, State, and local, unemployment insurance laws.

More importantly, however, payroll professionals routinely protect American workers by helping to enforce fair labor practices by ensuring that workers receive overtime pay that they are due. Payroll departments also ensure through wage reporting that retirees' Social Security benefits accurately reflect their career earnings.

The work of payroll departments transcends office matters, though. Payroll professionals help identify deadbeat parents by filing new hire reports to child support enforcement agencies in more than two dozen States. This action helps identify noncustodial parents and ensures that child support payments can be withheld from a parent's pay, if appropriate. In fact, payroll departments collect from noncustodial parents more than half of all child support payments—more than \$8.1 billion over the last 10 years.

Mr. President, payroll professionals clearly play an essential role benefiting millions of Americans across our Nation. I am indeed glad to take this opportunity to express my appreciation and that of the people of Virginia for the fine work of America's payroll professionals.●

#### THE IMPORTANCE OF DIET IN CANCER PREVENTION

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, very few cancer researchers have stressed the importance of diet in the prevention of cancer. Dr. Daniel Nixon of Charleston, SC is a pioneer in this field. I ask that there be printed in the RECORD an article from *the Post and Courier* profiling Dr. Nixon's professional accomplishments in preventative medicine.

The article follows:

DANIEL NIXON—HE FIGHTS CANCER WITH STRAWBERRIES

(By Dottie Ashley)

Some people dream of having a lavish home in the Bahamas or owning a private jet.

Dr. Daniel Nixon dreams of a super strawberry springing from the soil in South Carolina.

If Nixon's dream comes true, the results could prolong the lives of thousands of cancer patients so that they, too, may dream once more.

"South Carolina is a perfect place for cancer research because here we have both tumors of affluence and tumors of poverty, a large population of the very rich and of the very poor," say Nixon.

In the war against cancer, Nixon, associate director for Cancer Prevention and Control of the Hollings Cancer Center at the Medical University of South Carolina, is in charge of special weapons and tactics.

As the Folk Professor of Experimental Oncology at MUSC, Nixon has mounted his attack on cancer with an arsenal of cancer-preventing compounds that block the formation of cancer cells.

#### VOLUNTEERS ARE TESTED

A former associate director for the Cancer Prevention Research Program of the National Cancer Institute, Nixon has formed a networking arrangement between MUSC and other state agencies.

To conduct his research, which is funded largely by grants from the Washington State Raspberry Commission, Nixon has called on the services of the General Clinical Research Center at MUSC to monitor the concentrations of ellagic acid in the blood and urine of 12 healthy volunteers who are fed bowls of raspberries.

His research has been recognized by the Society for Nutritional Oncology Adjuvant Therapy, and Nixon will receive the Green Ribbon Award at a ceremony Sept. 18 in Philadelphia. The award is given by the society to recognize outstanding clinical research contributions to nutritional oncology in the areas of prevention, supportive nutrition and adjunctive therapy.

Nixon has seen both sides of the cancer-treatment coin.

"For 13 years, I administered chemotherapy to cancer patients, and finally I had to convince myself that we were not going to get rid of cancer by treatment only, that we had to have prevention as well," says Nixon, who also is the former head of medical oncology at Emory University's Winship Oncology clinic.

#### TREATED MISS LILLIAN

At Emory, Nixon was oncologist for Lillian Carter, mother of President Jimmy Carter.

"Dan Nixon is the most dedicated doctor I know. No matter how bad the news may be, he exudes hope," says Carter's sister-in-law, Sybil Carter, reached at her home in Plains, Ga. "He's Jimmy Carter's favorite physician."

Nixon recalls, "Miss Lillian was wonderful. She gave me a baseball that Fernando Valenzuela had signed and I still have it."

Prevention research is designed not only for those who do not have cancer, but also for those who have received, or are receiving treatment for cancer. Nixon believes that where cancer cells are already growing, in many cases, they may retreat when bombarded with raspberries and strawberries—more specifically, ellagic acid.

Raspberries and strawberries are extremely high in ellagic acid, a nutrient Nixon believes will prevent both the formation and advance of certain cancers, even in