

Greenwell received her certification as a boat operator, or coxswain, in just 1 year—a process that normally takes about a year and a half. Her colleagues say that she demonstrated an outstanding level of skill and professionalism throughout the rigorous certification process.

She has also served as a mentor to junior personnel and assisted multiple shipmates in receiving their qualifications as watch standers, boat crew members, boarding team members, and as coxswains. Petty Officer Greenwell's commitment to her team and the public she serves every day exemplifies—truly exemplifies—the Coast Guard's core values of honor, respect, and devotion to duty.

Petty Officer Greenwell, I just want you to know tonight that your service to our Nation has taken you around the world, and I know you will continue to go far—both literally and figuratively—in all your endeavors. Every day, you help to ensure the safety of your fellow Americans and the security of our Nation. From the bottom of my heart, I thank you for your tireless dedication, your invaluable service to the State and the Nation that we call home, and as we say in the Navy, “Bravo Zulu.”

Finally, to the thousands of brave men and women across the Department of Homeland Security who dedicate their lives to serving and protecting America and Americans, please know that what you do every day is important. I hope it fills your work with meaning and your life with happiness. On behalf of the people we all serve together, thank you for your service.

Sometimes we ask people—whether the Coast Guard or Department of Homeland Security, any part of the Federal Government—what they would like. Sometimes people say they would like more money, they would like more of this, or they would like more of that. What more than half the people say, though, is, I would just like to be thanked.

So to all the people I mentioned tonight and those with whom they serve at the Department of Homeland Security, thank you, and God bless you.

I especially thank my colleague from Ohio for his generosity and kindness tonight.

To the leader, good work. “Bravo Zulu” on the good work done here this week.

I yield the floor.

TRADE PREFERENCES EXTENSION ACT OF 2015

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, today I rise to commend my colleagues on passage of the Trade Preferences Extension Act of 2015. This legislation provides timely extension of the African Growth and Opportunity Act, or AGOA, Program, and preferential treatment for products from Haiti. And, this legislation finally reauthorizes the Generalized System of Preferences, or GSP,

Program which has languished since July of 2013. I am very pleased we have been successful in this effort.

Trade preference programs are vitally important to the economies of the beneficiary countries, supporting economic and social development. And, these programs support production here in the U.S. as many of the goods eligible under preference programs are raw materials and inputs that fuel American manufacturing. These programs build a trading relationship that is the first stepping stone towards developing a full, bilateral trading relationship that will further grow and support the U.S. economy. Particularly for some of our trading partners benefiting under the AGOA Program, we look forward to our trading relationship developing to the next phase, full bilateral trade agreements, during this authorization of the program.

But none of this would have been possible without the dedicated work of many people. I would like to recognize the staff of the Senate Finance Committee. I would like to recognize Senator WYDEN and his staff, especially Joshua Sheinkman, Jayme White, Elissa Alben, Greta Peisch, and Anderson Heiman. Our work was supported by the outstanding efforts of the International Trade Commission and the Office of the United States Trade Representative. I would like to particularly thank Florie Liser, Constance Hamilton, Behnaz Kibria, Bill Jackson, and Ben Kostrzewa from the Office of the USTR.

I would like to especially thank my staff for all their dedicated work on this legislation. Our international trade staff has worked tirelessly on this legislation and I thank them for their efforts: Everett Eissenstat, Shane Warren, and Rebecca Eubank. We have had the excellent support of detailees from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Kevin Rosenbaum, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Andrew Rollo, as well as Sahra Park Su and Kenneth Schmidt. I would like to thank my senior staff: Chris Campbell, Mark Prater, Jay Khosla, Jeff Wrase, and Bryan Hickman.

We can all be proud of the broad support this bill has received in both Houses of Congress. This legislation demonstrates that trade is a bipartisan issue. I look forward to President Obama signing this legislation into law as soon as possible.

CONGRATULATING RAMSEY LEWIS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I wish to take a moment to congratulate a native son of Chicago who has earned worldwide acclaim as a jazz pianist and who will soon achieve a lifelong dream of conducting and soloing with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Ramsey Lewis is a true American original—a virtuoso pianist and musical innovator who helped pioneer the sound many refer to as “smooth jazz.” Fifty-one years ago he and his band,

the Ramsey Lewis Trio, recorded a song that became an instant sensation and which remains a definitive classic of the cool jazz genre. It's called “The In Crowd.” You know the refrain: “I'm in with the in crowd. I go where the in crowd goes.”

That song was recorded live at Bohemian Caverns in Washington, DC, with almost no rehearsal. It sounds like a fable but it is true. That afternoon Ramsey and his bandmates—drummer Isaac “Redd” Holt and bassist Eldee Young—were sitting in a Washington, DC, coffee shop, debating what they could add to their set that night to make the recording stand out. Their waitress, a woman by the name of Nettie Gray, asked what was wrong. They explained their predicament.

Miss Nettie Gray walked over to the jukebox, dropped a coin in the slot and said: “Listen to this.” It was “The In Crowd,” sung by Dobie Gray—a popular hit at the time. The trio quickly worked out a jazz arrangement and used the song to end their set that evening. The crowd loved it. Audiences everywhere loved it. “The In Crowd” became the first of seven gold records by the Ramsey Lewis Trio.

What makes that story even more amazing is that “The In Crowd” was just one of four albums the Ramsey Lewis Trio recorded that year, 1964. Talk about prolific.

All told, this jazz legend has recorded 80 albums in an illustrious career that has spanned more than half a century. He has earned 3 Grammy Awards, 7 gold records, and hosted a nationally syndicated radio show and a 13-episode “Legends of Jazz” TV series on PBS.

In addition, he has served as artistic director of Jazz at Ravinia since 1992. He also helped organize Ravinia's Jazz Mentor Program. He serves on the board of trustees for the Merit School of Music in Chicago and The Chicago High School for the Arts. And a decade ago he created the Ramsey Lewis Foundation to help connect at-risk children to the world of music.

Many artists might decide that such a resume was long and impressive enough—but not Ramsey Lewis. At the age of 80, Ramsey Lewis is preparing to fulfill the dream of a lifetime. On August 8, he will serve as conductor and soloist with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra at the Ravinia Festival in Highland Park, IL, just outside of Chicago.

Ravinia is the oldest music festival in North America. Over the years it has hosted such musical giants as Louis Armstrong, Pablo Casals, Aaron Copland, Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald, George Gershwin, Luciano Pavarotti, and Yoyo Ma. It is also the summer home of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Ramsey Lewis' debut as conductor and soloist with the CSO is a testament to his musical genius and dexterity. It is also a testament to his ability to see beyond narrow expectations about what is possible for musicians of color.