



CONTACTS: Erica Mobley
The Leapfrog Group
202-292-6713
emobley@leapfroggroup.org

Ashley Duvall
Stern + Associates / Leapfrog
908-325-3865
LeapfrogMediaGroup@sternassociates.com

The Leapfrog Group Elects New Chairperson

WASHINGTON – July 16, 2015 – National non-profit hospital watchdog The Leapfrog Group is pleased to announce the election of Laurel Pickering, President and CEO of Northeast Business Group on Health (NEBGH), as chair of its Board of Directors, effective this month.

“Laurel has been a longtime member of our Board of Directors and a key leader within the Leapfrog movement,” said Leah Binder, President and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. “She has been integral in the movement toward value based purchasing, the effort by employers and other purchasers to achieve higher quality, more cost effective health care for employees.”

In her role at NEBGH, Pickering spearheads a 200 member business coalition where she focuses on mobilizing the business community to drive improvement in health care and organizing health plans to work together to improve quality and value. Based on those efforts, NEBGH was chosen by the New York State Department of Health to convene employers and health plans statewide to obtain input on a new value-based primary care initiative that is the centerpiece of its State Innovation Model (SIM) grant from the federal government.

In addition to her work with NEBGH and The Leapfrog Group, Pickering also serves on the Board of National Quality Forum (NQF) and National Business Coalition on Health (NBCH). Regionally, she is Chair of the Board of Directors of the NEBGH subsidiary *HealthPass*, a health insurance exchange for small businesses, and is also on the Board of Health Republic, a nonprofit health insurance plan in New York.

Pickering will lead the board as Leapfrog grows the Hospital Safety Score and Leapfrog Hospital Survey, and furthers the organization’s mission for transparency of hospital performance.

About The Leapfrog Group

Founded in 2000 by large employers and other purchasers, [The Leapfrog Group](#) is a national nonprofit organization driving a movement for giant leaps forward in the quality and safety of American health care. The flagship [Leapfrog Hospital Survey](#) collects and transparently reports hospital performance, empowering purchasers to find the highest-value care and giving consumers the lifesaving information they need to make informed decisions. [Hospital Safety Score](#), Leapfrog’s other main initiative, assigns letter grades to hospitals based on their record of patient safety, helping consumers protect themselves and their families from errors, injuries, accidents, and infections.

###