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Supreme Court Upholds the Free Flow of Information in Case that PERC Research and PERC President Participated

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DURHAM, NC:

In 2006 Vermont enacted legislation that limited the flow of information about physicians' prescription habits to pharmaceutical companies. IMS Health Inc. took legal action against the state of Vermont, and the case was taken to court.

IMS Health Inc. gave the PERC a grant supporting the research compiled in "The Impact of Provider-Identifiable Data on Healthcare Quality and Cost." The results from the PERC study showed the policy changes presented risks to healthcare delivery with no substantiated benefits. These results were presented on the behalf of IMS Health Inc. in the original proceedings.

After hearing arguments in the case, *Sorrell v. IMS Health Inc.*, in April, the Supreme Court of the U.S. struck down the Vermont legislation.

"We are pleased with the outcome of the Supreme Court case. PERC has always believed that information can be a powerful tool to solve problems, the legislation in question attempted to achieve healthcare reform, as laudable as it may have been, via the restriction of the flow of information. That was, unquestionably, the wrong approach," said PERC President Michael Turner.

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Using innovative market-based information solutions, [PERC](#) seeks to increase financial inclusion globally by more than any other institution. PERC undertakes research and development to enable more robust asset development and wealth creation--what it calls "information-led development". PERC is a 501c3 headquartered in Durham, NC.