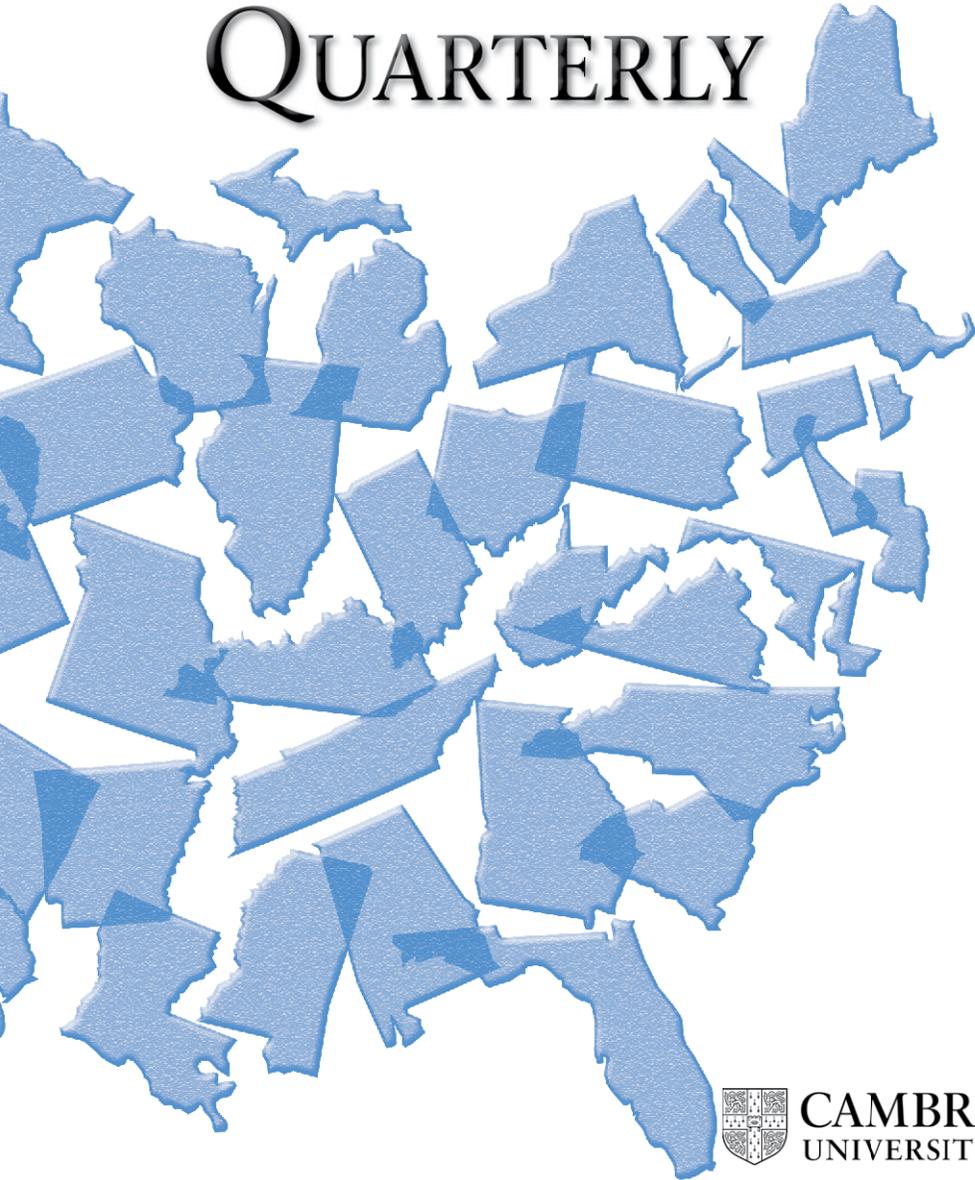


STATE POLITICS & POLICY QUARTERLY

VOLUME 24
NUMBER 1
MARCH 2024



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

*The official journal of the State Politics and Policy section
of the American Political Science Association*

ISSN: 1532-4400

<https://doi.org/10.1017/spq.2024.1> Published online by Cambridge University Press

State Politics & Policy Quarterly

Co-Editors

Conor Dowling, *University at Buffalo*
Tracy Osborn, *University of Iowa*
Jonathan Winburn, *University of Mississippi*

EDITORIAL BOARD

Charles Barrilleaux, *Florida State University*
Daniel R. Biggers, *University of California, Riverside*
Nathaniel A. Birkhead, *Kansas State University*
Frederick J. Boehmke, *University of Iowa*
Daniel Bowen, *The College of New Jersey*
Rebecca Bromley-Trujillo, *Christopher Newport University*
Nadia E. Brown, *Purdue University*
Jordan Butcher, *Arkansas State University*
Daniel M. Butler, *University of California, San Diego*,
Christopher J. Clark, *University North Carolina at Chapel Hill*
Jennifer Hayes Clark, *University of Houston*
John Cluverius, *University of Massachusetts Lowell*
Melody Crowder-Meyer, *Davidson College*
Belinda Creel Davis, *Louisiana State University*
Bruce A. Desmarais, *Pennsylvania State University*
Jeffrey J. Harden, *University of Notre Dame*
Shannon Jenkins, *University of Massachusetts Dartmouth*
Andrew Karch, *University of Minnesota*
Jaclyn J. Kettler, *Boise State University*
Justin H. Kirkland, *University of Virginia*
Rebecca J. Kreitzer, *University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*
Mary A. Kroeger, *University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*
Anna Mahoney, *Tulane University*
Todd Makse, *Florida International University*
Seth E. Masket, *University of Denver*
Abigail A. Matthews, *University at Buffalo*,
Kenneth J. Meier, *Texas A&M University*
Jamila Michener, *Cornell University*
Michael G. Miller, *Barnard College, Columbia University*
Megan Mullin, *Duke University*
Michael J. Nelson, *Pennsylvania State University*
Zoe Nemerever, *Utah Valley University*
Christopher Ojeda, *University of Tennessee*
Julie Pacheco, *University of Iowa*
Chinnu Parinandi, *University of Colorado at Boulder*
Janine A. Parry, *University of Arkansas*
Julia A. Payson, *New York University*
Shanna Pearson-Merkowitz, *University of Rhode Island*
Justin H. Phillips, *Columbia University*
Tessa Provins, *University of Pittsburgh*
Rene R. Rocha, *University of Iowa*
Steve Rogers, *Saint Louis University*
Jamil S. Scott, *Georgetown University*
Charles R. Shipan, *University of Michigan*
Candis Watts Smith, *Duke University*
Rachel Torres, *James Madison University*
Christopher Witko, *Pennsylvania State University*
Jennifer Wolak, *Michigan State University*
Jatia Wrighten, *Virginia Commonwealth University*
Gerald Wright, *Indiana University, Bloomington*
Eric S. Zeemering, *University of Georgia*

Contents

Articles

- Legislative Civility, Gridlock, Polarization, and Productivity 1
*William D. Schreckhise, John C. Pierce, Francis A. Benjamin, Nicholas P. Lovrich,
and Eric Button*
- Why Are All of the Children Perceived to Be Above Average? Stakeholders
and the Lake Wobegon Effect in Attitudes toward Public Schools 23
Timothy Vercellotti and Peter Fairman
- Voter Approval of Bond Referendums: The Role of Bond Amount and Ballot
Characteristics 53
Andrew Bechard, Corey Lang, and Shanna Pearson-Merkowitz
- Recusal as Remedy: Disincentivizing Donors 77
Benjamin D. Edelstein and Sara C. Benesh

Short Articles

- The Electoral Dynamics of Capital Punishment Commutations 99
Julian E. Gerez and Michael G. Miller
- A Squire Index Update: Stability and Change in Legislative Professionalization,
1979–2021 110
Peverill Squire