Living Legislation: Durability, Change, and the Politics of American Lawmaking


Living legislation and American politics / Jeffery A. Jenkins and Eric M. Patashnik. Making the modern American legislative state / William J. Novak. Part Two: Studying living legislation: coalitions, durability, and change. Durability and change in the president's legislative policy agenda, 1799-2002 / Jeffrey E. Cohen and Matthew Eshbaugh-Soha. Coalition structure and legislative innovation in American national government / Sean Gailmard and Jeffery A. Jenkins. The lives and deaths of federal programs, 1971-2003 / Christopher R. Berry, Barry C. Burden, and William G. Howell. Beyond legislation: Living Legislation provides fresh insights into contemporary American politics and public policy. Of particular interest to the contributors to this volume is the question of why some laws stand the test of time while others are eliminated, replaced, or significantly amended. Among the topics the essays discuss are how laws emerge from—and effect change within—coalition structures, the effectiveness of laws at mediating partisan conflicts, and the ways in which laws interact with broader shifts in the political environment. As an essential addition to the study of politics, Living Legislation provides fresh insights into contemporary American politics and public policy. Of particular interest to the contributors to this volume is the question of why some laws stand the test of time while others are eliminated, replaced, or significantly amended. Among the topics the essays discuss are how laws emerge from—and effect change within—coalition structures, the effectiveness of laws at mediating partisan conflicts, and the ways in which laws interact with broader shifts in the political environment. Part Two Studying Living Legislation: Coalitions, Durability, and Change. Chapter 3 Durability and Change in the President's Legislative Policy Agenda, 1799–2002 Jeffrey E. Cohen and Matthew Eshbaugh-Soha. Living Legislation Durability, Change, and the Politics of American Lawmaking E D I T E D B Y J E F F E R Y A . J E N K I N S A N D E R I C M . P A T A S H N I K T H E U N I V E R S I T Y. O t C h I C a g o p r e s s C h I C a g o a n D L o n D o n. Â An analysis of institutional recalibration indicates that new legislation and new constitutional amendments encompass only a portion of the constitutive politics that will actually define the new order. In line with the arguments of many legal scholars, the case of judicial delimitation in the New Deal era sug- gests that much of the substance of major shifts in constitutional development have occurred independently of the formal processes of constitutional and statutory lawmaking.