



## The California Initiative

**Virginia Gray, Russell L. Hanson**

## **The California Initiative:**

**Lawmaking by Initiative** Philip L. Dubois, 1998 This book describes the history of the initiative process and the major issues that have arisen during its increasing use in recent years. By elucidating the problems that have arisen and their possible solutions, the authors seek both to inform the debate about the wisdom of the initiative and to offer suggestions for improvement to jurisdictions that choose to use the process. With the aid of more than 40 charts and tables, the authors compare the major features of the initiative in the American jurisdictions that have adopted the procedure. 24 states and the District of Columbia. They draw particularly on the experience in California, the most frequent U.S. user of the initiative and a major battleground in the development of ideas about the process. The book also discusses the use of the initiative in other countries, particularly Switzerland, where the process originated and the only other major country in the world that makes extensive use of the initiative today.

**A History of the California Initiative Process** Bill Jones, 2001 The California initiative process established in 1911 provides the people a mechanism to propose statutory revisions and constitutional amendments and to adopt or reject those proposed. This historical study of proposed initiatives in California from 1912 through Aug 1998 are included in both chronological order and by subject matter. This study also lists the ballot measures that have been approved by voters, it cites the most popular initiatives of recent years and it groups together proposed initiative measures by the year in which they received a title and summary thus entering into circulation.

**Democratic Delusions** Richard J. Ellis, 2002 It is becoming common in many states the opportunity to reclaim government from politicians by simply signing a petition to put an initiative on the ballot and then voting for it. Isn't this what America ought to be about? Proposition 13 in California's 1978 election paved the way. The past decade saw more than 450 such actions now in many states. Direct legislation dominates the political agenda and defines political and public opinion. While this may appear to be democracy in action, Richard Ellis warns us that the initiative process may be putting democracy at risk. In *Democratic Delusions*, he offers a critical analysis of the statewide initiative process in the United States, challenging readers to look beyond populist rhetoric and face political reality. Through engaging prose and illuminating and often amusing anecdotes, Ellis shows readers the dark side of direct democracy, specifically the undemocratic consequences that result from relying too heavily on the initiative process. He provides historic context to the development of initiatives from their Populist and Progress roots to their accelerated use in recent decades and shows the differences between initiative processes in the states that use them. Most important while acknowledging the positive contribution of initiatives, Ellis shows that there are reasons to use them carefully and sparingly. Ill-considered initiatives can subvert normal legislative checks and balances, undermine the deliberative process and even threaten the rights of minority groups through state-sanctioned measures. Today's initiative process, Ellis warns, is dominated not by ordinary citizens but by politicians, perennial activists, wealthy interests and well-oiled machines. Deliberately misleading language on the ballot confuses voters and influences election results. And because

many initiatives are challenged in the courts these ostensibly democratic procedures have now put legislation in the hands of the judiciary Throughout his book he cites examples drawn from states in which initiatives are used intensively Oregon California Colorado Washington and Arizona as well as others in which their use has increased in recent years Undoing mistakes enacted by initiative can be more difficult than correcting errors of legislatures As voters prepare to consider the host of initiatives that will be offered in the 2002 elections this book can help put those efforts in a clearer light Democratic Delusions urges moderation attempting to teach citizens to be at least as skeptical of the initiative process as they are of the legislative process and to appreciate the enduring value of the representative institutions they seek to circumvent **Energy Reporter**, 1975 **Interest Group Influence in the California Initiative Process** Elisabeth R. Gerber, 1998 **A History of the California Initiative Process** Bill Jones, William L. Jones, 1995 **The California Initiative Process** John Fred Silva, 2000 **A History of the California Initiative Process** California. Secretary of State, March Fong Eu, 1979

**Official Voter Information Guide**, 2000-11-07 **The Bakke Case** Howard Ball, 2000 Examines the law and politics surrounding the Bakke case a case claiming reverse discrimination considered by many as the most important civil rights decision since the end of segregation **Improving the California Initiative Process** Philip L. Dubois, Floyd Feeney, 1992

**The Speaker's Commission on the California Initiative Process** California. Legislature. Assembly. Speaker's Commission on the California Initiative Process, 2002 **Indian Gaming & Tribal Sovereignty** Steven Andrew Light, Kathryn R. L. Rand, 2005 Examines Indian gaming in detail what it is how it became one of the most politically charged phenomena for tribes and states today and the legal and political compromises that shape its present and will determine its future

**One Hundred Years'progress of the United States. Giving ... the Vast Improvements Made in Agriculture, Cultivation of Cotton and Sugar, Commerce ... With an Appendix Entitled Marvels that Our Grandchildren Will See ... By Eminent Literary Men ..**, 1871 **Annual Report** Rockefeller Foundation, 1986 **Arts Digest**, 1937 **Current Law Index**, 2000 **Keeping the People's Liberties** John J. Dinan, 1998

4 The theory and design of populist institutions **Travelers Casualty and Surety Company V. Bowman**, 2006 **Politics in the American States** Virginia Gray, Russell L. Hanson, 2008 The fully updated ninth edition of Politics in the American States A Comparative Analysis continues the tradition of combining high caliber research with comprehensive comparative analysis of the fifty states Chapter authors provide thorough coverage of key topics including foundational chapters on intergovernmental relations elections and the legislative process as well as chapters on specific policy areas such as education taxes and a new chapter on corrections In addition to the wealth of tables figures and maps showcasing comparative data the authors provide engaging descriptive material a new glossary of key terms and a strong focus on emerging issues in state politics enabling students to make systematic and nuanced comparisons between states

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## **The California Initiative Introduction**

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