

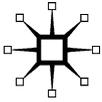
# The American Governor



The American Governor  
Power, Constraint, and Leadership  
in the States

Edited by  
*David P. Redlawsk*

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THE AMERICAN GOVERNOR

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*To Alan Rosenthal: Careful observer and champion of state legislative sausage-making. Your deep respect for the men and women who run for office and try to “make the damn system work” and your understanding of the workings of state government—especially legislatures, and, later in life, governors—has been of enormous benefit to students and legislative bodies alike. Working tirelessly and successfully to improve the capacity of legislatures to act as coequal branches of government, you enhanced their ability to represent the citizens of their states democratically, all the while exemplifying the role of the scholar in public and community service.*

*And to all US Governors, past, present, and future, whose tasks are not simply those of “mini-presidents” but encompass a wide variety of leadership responsibilities and challenges, joys, and sorrows. With this book we hope to expand our understanding of what you do and how it matters, as you carry out what Alan Rosenthal ultimately came to call “the best job in politics.”*



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# Acknowledgments

This book began as a project of the Center on the American Governor (CAG, [governors.rutgers.edu](http://governors.rutgers.edu)), a unit of the Eagleton Institute of Politics. CAG's mission is to develop and enhance the study of governors, both for the State of New Jersey and for the country as a whole. In addition to building the first online archives of New Jersey governors and promoting discussion on the role of governors generally, CAG announced a national competition in 2012, and again in 2013, offering seed grants to scholars engaged in any aspect of the study of American governors, in any discipline. The resulting response allowed CAG to identify and fund 15 promising projects primarily by early career scholars. Most, though not all, of the chapters of this book are from a subset of those projects, illuminating the many ways in which the role of governors can be studied and, we hope, jump-starting even more research into this critical executive position in the American federal system. The authors of these chapters (3 through 9) wish to recognize the support of Eagleton and CAG as they worked on their projects.

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