Power And Politics In California

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california is full of myths and legends but its political system shouldn t be in this refreshingly critical take edgar kaskla brings an analysis of power how it is distributed how it is used and to what end to bear on california s political system and the many troubling issues it currently faces starting from the premise that california is in deep crisis politically economically culturally and environmentally kaskla traces the state s economic and political development as a process controlled by and for the elite be they land barons the hollywood glitterati or silicon valley execs kaskla focuses on what he calls growth machine politics elites and their land use as promoters of development and redevelopment to show students how the gap between the rich and poor in california continues to widen as minority communities increase in size as the cost of campaigning in the state balloons and as the state s debt crisis mounts the socio economic and cultural issues at play in california add up to a real threat to democratic governance kaskla clearly outlines how each of the state s institutions are organized but also shows how they are affected indeed distorted by a host of serious economic and social inequalities not one to mince words kaskla is in places irreverent but his text is thoroughly researched and well argued never crossing the line into the polemical tables figures maps and lists for further reading help reinforce the book s substantive points and critical approach and a host of student and instructor ancillaries help with study review and preparation

help students to understand how california s political system works with this concise text thoroughly revised for the sixth edition author ren®e van vechten presses students to think about how history political culture rules and institutions conspire to shape politics today and how they will determine the state of affairs tomorrow from the structure of the state s government to its local representatives policies and voter participation california politics a primer provides the concepts and details students need instructors the instructor resource site gives you access to all of the resources included with this text

the thoroughly revised fifth edition of california politics a primer concisely explains how california s history political culture rules and institutions come together to shape politics today and how they will determine the state of affairs tomorrow author renee b van vechten begins with a brief political history of california then walks through direct democracy the legislature executive branch and court system she covers local government and concludes with a discussion of the state s budget process campaigns and elections political engagement and policy issues from the structure of the state s government to its local representatives policies and voter

participation california politics a primer delivers the concepts and details students need new to the fifth edition an emphasis on california s place in the federal system provides you with context around the state leadership s resistance to trump administration policies on things like california s sanctuary state status immigration the environment and more increased coverage of policy topics throughout the book helps you see how recent policy has impacted issues such as greenhouse gas emissions regulations attempted fixes for water and drought related issues new transportation projects and prison reform extended discussions of elections related innovations introduce you to recent elections related topics such as the top two primary efforts to increase voter registration all vote by mail elections and redistricting new coverage of the five californias gives you a better understanding of california s political geography and how distinct segments of the population are primed for political engagement or disaffection new lists of key terms with clear definitions at the end of each chapter enable you to review the content more effectively new and updated maps and graphics depict important topics such as california s newly proposed high speed rail project

equally viable as a stand alone or supplementary text california its government and politics offers an updated examination of california government balancing an analysis of its institutions with discussion of political processes

this volume of original essays by leading scholars is an innovative thorough introduction to the history and culture of california includes 30 essays by leading scholars in the field essays range widely across perspectives including political social economic and environmental history essays with similar approaches are paired and grouped to work as individual pieces and as companions to each other throughout the text produced in association with the huntington usc institute on california and the west

now in its ninth edition power and politics in california continues its tradition of asking californians to take a hard and systematic look at their state governance and engage themselves in a critical analysis of what is working what is not and what changes need to be made for the state to meet the increasingly formidable challenges it faces the era of arnold is now in its mid stages and the rise of this very different political personality has had significant impacts on the state this ninth edition provides analysis of governor schwarzenegger in context and looks forward to how california s fiscal condition educational system and response to diversity will play a vital role in shaping the state s politics in the future

general history of california

combining insights from urban western and environmental history elkind examines the ways that people s reactions to their natural surroundings drive both demand for improved public services and political reform she traces public works development in the gilded age and progressive era to explain how these programs united each city with its suburban neighbors creating new political entities and allowing boston and oakland to appropriate rural resources and thus overcome the environmental limits to their continued growth and prosperity she also shows how when the power of regionalism is turned to urban development environmental and social costs are sometimes overlooked

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