

Money in Politics

In politics, money is often the name of the game. Politicians enrich themselves while in office, spend campaign money to finance their reelection, and accept lucrative “golden parachute” jobs after leaving office. *Money in Politics* argues that these different forms of capital are part of a common system and should be analyzed in a single framework. The book advances a comparative theory that shows how self-enrichment, campaign spending, and golden parachute jobs are connected to each other. This theory explains when and how money enters politics, ultimately illuminating that a change in one form affects the other types and revealing the consequences this has for democracy. The book uses a wide range of evidence from countries around the world, including causally identified quantitative studies, qualitative cross-national comparisons, and original survey experiments. Enlightening and instructive, this book shows that we can only fully comprehend the role of money in politics when we view it as a common system to be analyzed and critiqued.

SIMON WESCHLE is an Assistant Professor in Political Science at Syracuse University. His research focuses on democratic representation and accountability, and factors that impede it.

Money in Politics

*Self-Enrichment, Campaign Spending,
and Golden Parachutes*

SIMON WESCHLE

Syracuse University



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

314-321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,
New Delhi – 110025, India

103 Penang Road, #05-06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781316511848

DOI: [10.1017/9781009053952](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009053952)

© Simon Weschle 2022

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 2022

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Weschle, Simon, 1984- author.

Title: Money in politics : self-enrichment, campaign spending, and golden parachutes / Simon Weschle.

Description: New York : Cambridge University Press, 2022. | Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2021062479 (print) | LCCN 2021062480 (ebook) | ISBN 9781316511848 (hardback) | ISBN 9781009053952 (ebook)

Subjects: LCSH: Campaign funds. | Campaign funds—Corrupt aspects. | Political corruption—Economic aspects. | Politicians—Salaries, etc. | Politicians—Pensions.

Classification: LCC JF2112.C28 W47 2022 (print) | LCC JF2112.C28 (ebook) | DDC 324.7/8—dc23/eng/20220213

LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2021062479>

LC ebook record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2021062480>

ISBN 978-1-316-51184-8 Hardback

ISBN 978-1-009-05471-3 Paperback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.