Delegating Powers: A Transaction Cost Politics Approach to Policy Making under Separate Powers

By David Epstein, Sharyn O Halloran, Thrainn Eggertsson

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS, United Kingdom, 2004. Paperback. Book Condition: New. New.. 226 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.David Epstein and Sharyn O Halloran produce the first unified theory of policy making between the legislative and executive branches. Examining major US policy initiatives from 1947 to 1992, the authors describe the conditions under which the legislature narrowly constrains executive discretion, and when it delegates authority to the bureaucracy. In doing so, the authors synthesize diverse and competitive literatures, from transaction cost and principal-agent theory in economics, to information models developed in both economics and political science, to substantive and theoretical work on legislative organization and on bureaucratic discretion. Professors Epstein and O Halloran produce their own deductive specification of the conditions for making or delegating policy, gather a rich, original data set on delegation and discretion in the postwar era to test the propositions derived from their model, and devise appropriate statistical tests to assess the validity of their propositions. With implications for the study of constitutional design, political delegation, legislative organization, administrative law, and the role of the executive in policy making, this book redefines the study of legislative-executive relations under separate...

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