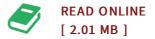




The Economic Theory of Representative Government

By Albert Breton

Aldine Transaction. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 244 pages. Dimensions: 9.1in. x 6.1in. x 0.6in.This book provides a theory capable of explaining the patterns of public expenditures and taxation that occur under representative government. Economists and political scientists have come to realize that issues of public policy and public finance cannot be solved on the naive assumption that these are problems tackled by a government that exists only to serve the public good. Instead, government must be understood as one of the major economic institutions of society, one that behaves like more familiar economic institutions--the household and the firm--though the market it confronts is a market for policies rather than for goods and services. Albert Bretons pathbreaking work remains important in taking us toward a theory of representative government that enables an understanding of the observed behavior of political institutions. The authors analysis is cast in a relatively simple demand, supply and demand-supply-equilibrium framework, using the tools of marginal and stability analysis to explain the forces that influence and determine the flow of resources as they are allocated between competing ends in the public sector. The book presents a model of demand by citizens, who are assumed to be maximizing...



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