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| Sommario/riassunto | Bureaus of efficiency were established in America as part of the civic reform agenda during the Progressive era at the beginning of the twentieth century. In some cities they were nonprofit agencies pushing for governmental reform from the outside. In other cities, efficiency bureaus were established by reformers as departments within municipal government, school districts or counties. The goal of such bureaus was to promote efficiency in local government, as a way of fighting political corruption, urban machines and political bosses. Efficiency bureaus sought to professionalize local government |