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Sommario/riassunto	The author argues that identities based on race and gender affect how Black women legislate. Unlike other studies that only analyze intergroup variances, this book examines intragroup differences among Maryland's African American women legislators. It develops representational identity theory to examine when and why Black women state legislators will behave similarly or have divergent policy preferences and uses intragroup analysis to compare and contrast the political behavior and policy preferences of Black women elected to the Maryland state legislature.