

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910455070203321
Autore	Berry Christopher R.
Titolo	Imperfect union : representation and taxation in multilevel governments // Christopher R. Berry [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2009
ISBN	1-107-19406-7 9786612393846 1-282-39384-7 0-511-64780-8 0-511-80852-6 0-511-63276-2 0-511-65188-0 0-511-63155-3 0-511-63396-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xiii, 255 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Collana	Political economy of institutions and decisions
Disciplina	352.4/2190973
Soggetti	Special districts - United States Local finance - United States
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Half-title; Dedication; Series-title; Title; Copyright; Contents; Preface; Acknowledgments; 1 Introduction: American Politics in 3D; 2 What's Special about Special-Purpose Governments?; 3 A Political Theory of Special-Purpose Government; 4 Piling On: The Problem of Concurrent Taxation; 5 Specialization and Quality; 6 Governing the Fiscal Commons; 7 Conclusion; Methodological Appendix; References; Index
Sommario/riassunto	Imperfect Union offers the first political theory of special purpose jurisdictions, which constitute the most common form of local government in the United States today. Collectively, special purpose governments have more civilian employees than the federal government and spend more than all city governments combined. The proliferation of special purpose jurisdictions has fundamentally altered

the nature of representation and taxation in local government. Citizens today are commonly represented by dozens - in some cases hundreds - of local officials in multiple layers of government. As a result, political participation in local elections is low and special interest groups associated with each function exert disproportionate influence. With multiple special-interest governments tapping the same tax base, the local tax base takes on the character of a common-pool resource, leading to familiar problems of overexploitation. Strong political parties can often mitigate the common-pool problem by informally coordinating the policies of multiple overlapping governments.

---