Record Nr. UNINA9910462718903321 Autore Lewis Daniel C. Titolo Direct democracy and minority rights: a critical assessment of the tyranny of the majority in the American states / / Daniel C. Lewis New York;; London:,: Routledge,, 2013 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-283-94238-0 0-203-10934-1 1-136-26935-5 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (137 p.) Collana Controversies in electoral democracy and representation Disciplina 323.173 Direct democracy - United States - States Soggetti Representative government and representation - United States - States Majorities Minorities - Civil rights - United States - States Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese Materiale a stampa **Formato** Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Direct democracy institutions & the threat of tyranny -- Direct democracy & the diffusion of anti-minority policies -- A representational filter? the passage of anti-minority policy proposals --The flip side; direct democracy & pro-minority policies -- Conclusion. Sommario/riassunto This book conclusively demonstrates that direct democracy-institutions like the ballot initiative and the referendum-endangers the rights of minorities and perpetuates a tyranny of the majority. While advocates of direct democracy advocate that these institutions protect citizens from corrupt lawmakers beholden to special interests, Daniel Lewis's thorough investigation shows how such mass participation exposes minority groups to negative policy outcomes favored by only a slim majority of voters. Some would argue that greater democratic

responsiveness is a positive outcome, but without the