Record Nr. Autore Titolo Pubbl/distr/stampa	UNINA9910789711703321 Mason Robert <1970-> The Republican Party and American Politics from Hoover to Reagan / / Robert Mason [[electronic resource]] Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2012
ISBN	1-107-22168-4 1-139-12493-5 1-283-38382-9 97866133838822 1-139-12346-7 1-139-11771-8 1-139-12837-X 1-139-11335-6 1-139-11554-5 0-511-84390-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (x, 310 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Classificazione	HIS036060
Disciplina	324.273409/04
Soggetti	United States Politics and government 20th century
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	1. "From old Home Melodies to Jazz Music": 1928-1933 2. "As Maine Goes, So Goes Vermont": 1933-1939 3. "The Simple Barefoot Wall Street Lawyer": 1939-1945 4. "Liberty Versus Socialism": 1945-1953 5. "Modern Republicanism": 1953-1961 6. "A Choice, Not An Echo": 1960-1968 7. "There's a Realignment Going On": 1968-1976 8. "You Are Witnessing the Great Realignment": 1977-1989 Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	During a long period of the twentieth century, stretching from the Great Depression until the Reagan years, defeat generally characterized the electoral record of the Republican party. Although Republicans sometimes secured victory in presidential contests, a majority of Americans identified with the Democratic party, not the GOP. This book investigates how Republicans tackled the problem of their party's

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minority status and why their efforts to boost GOP fortunes usually ended in failure. At the heart of the Republicans' minority puzzle was the profound and persistent popularity of New Deal liberalism. This puzzle was stubbornly resistant to solution. Efforts to develop a Republican version of government activism met little success. Only the Democratic party's decline eventually created opportunities for Republican resurgence. This book is the first to offer a wide-ranging analysis of the topic, which is of central importance to any understanding of modern US political history.