

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910812150003321
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Titolo	Federalism, secession, and the American state : divided, we secede // Lawrence M. Anderson
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York : , : Routledge, , 2013
ISBN	1-136-21523-9 0-203-09566-9 1-283-86145-3 1-136-21524-7
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (198 p.)
Collana	Routledge studies in North American politics ; ; 6
Disciplina	320.473/049
Soggetti	Federal government - United States - History - 19th century Secession - United States - History States' rights (American politics) - History - 19th century Nullification (States' rights) - History - 19th century United States Politics and government 19th century South Carolina Politics and government 1775-1865
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [165]-177) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction: the problem, the method, and the outline of the book -- The American state and early challenges to central state authority -- States' rights in South Carolina: from nullification to the first secession crisis -- South Carolina secedes -- The path of secession in the three Souths -- The past and future of federalism and secession.
Sommario/riassunto	One important tradition in political science conceives of the Civil War in the United States serving as the functional equivalent of the English and French Revolutions, bringing with it the victory of liberal democratic industrialism over aristocratic agriculturalism. From this perspective, the Civil War is notable for its impact on the American state. Surprisingly however, little attention has been paid to the distinguishing features of this historic rupture in American politics. Through primary source research and the re-analysis of the rich historical literature about the an

