

Multiparty Politics in America

Edited by
PAUL S. HERRNSON
and
JOHN C. GREEN

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Preface

This volume originated in the sixth workshop sponsored by the Political Organizations and Parties Section (POP) of the American Political Science Association in September 1996. The workshop brought together scholars and practitioners to consider the role of minor parties in American party politics. The subject is timely and important for at least two reasons. First, the number of independent and minor party candidates have increased in recent times, a pattern symbolized by Ross Perot and the Reform Party. And second, the possibility of expanded multiparty politics in the United States has captured the imagination of many observers.

This volume and the workshop that inspired it resulted from the hard work of many people. First and foremost, we wish to thank the participants and authors, whose outstanding contributions made both endeavors possible. We also wish to thank the executive committee of POP and the American Political Science Association for sponsoring the workshop. Special thanks go to Kimberly Haverkamp of the Ray C. Bliss Institute of Applied Politics at the University of Akron for preparing the manuscript and to Jennifer Knerr of Rowman & Littlefield for her support, encouragement, and advice.

Other POP workshop publications include: *The Politics of Ideas* (Rowman & Littlefield, 1995), edited by John White; *Representing Interest Groups and Interest Group Representation*, edited by William Crotty and Mildred Schwartz; and *Machine Politics, Sound Bites, & Nostalgia*, edited by Michael Margolis.

Paul Herrnson
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Greg Jan is a founding member of the Green party of California and has been active since 1985. From 1986-1988, he served on the Governing Council of National Green Party, and in 1996 he chaired the Committee to Draft Ralph Nader for President.

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Justin A. Roberts is on the board of directors of the California Reform party. He supported Ross Perot's presidential bid in 1992 and subsequently became a charter member of United We Stand America. He helped with the successful California registration drive for ballot access for the Reform party.

Terry Savage has run for office on the Libertarian party ticket, in 1994 for the California State Assembly, and in 1995 for Congress in the 13th district in California. In 1995 he was elected to state party Executive Committee, Libertarian party, and is active in charting party strategy.

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