

POS 2112 State and Local Government

Professor Crosby

Chapter Seven Assessment Test - State and Local Politics - Donovan, Smith, et. al.

For each item, mark either A (true) or B (false)

Each item is worth 4 points each

1. About half of the states feature a unicameral legislature.
2. States are using more multimember districts in an attempt to increase the representation of racial minorities.
3. Incumbents in state legislative election only win in about half of their reelection bids.
4. At the micro level, state legislative elections are rarely competitive.
5. Party affiliation is a major reason for limitations on competition in state elections.
6. Party affiliation is a major factor when most low information voters make their candidate choice.
7. Malapportionment refers to when districts are unable to show a clear majority vote winner in a state election.
8. Most state elections are usually decided by the factors of incumbency and party affiliation.
9. The 14th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States requires that each legislative district be equally apportioned.
10. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 bans the use of districting to dilute race or ethnicity based representation.
11. Gerrymandering is the use of districting to strengthen party competition.
12. Most African-American state legislators are members of the Republican Party.
13. The states with the greatest amount of minority representation in the state legislatures are found in the South.
14. A conference committee is called when the leaders of both of the houses in a state legislature wish to directly address the governor.
15. Pork barrel projects involve the direction of publicly funded projects to specific legislative districts.