



# The Party Is Over

The New Louisiana Politics

Edited by **PEARSON CROSS** and **CHRISTIE L. MALOYED**

For decades, the Louisiana political scene has been a source of interest and intrigue for scholars and casual observers alike. In recent years, the state's political, economic, and environmental challenges have drawn sustained attention from regional and national media. Observers have typically focused on Louisiana's distinctive political culture, including jungle primaries, colorful candidates, and tolerance for scandal. However, recent shifts have eroded the state's unique political character, aligning it with national political trends of partisan realignment, political polarization, and outside influence in state and local elections.

*The Party Is Over* brings together top scholars, journalists, and policy analysts to investigate these recent shifts in institutions, politics, and policy and situate them in the context of national politics. Both accessible and thorough, the volume offers an informed and reliable foundation for those new to Louisiana's political culture and for long-time observers seeking new insights into recent developments. Contributors recognize the challenges posed by the new politics and point toward opportunities to leverage the state's cultural and economic strengths to build a better Louisiana

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## PRAISE FOR *THE PARTY IS OVER*

"Pearson Cross and Christie Maloyed assembled an all-star group of analysts who clearly explain the changing nature of our state's governing institutions, political behavior, and key policy areas. This is a book on Louisiana politics that we not only needed but are very lucky to have. It's all here. It's expertly done. It's well worth the read."—**Wayne Parent**, author of *Inside the Carnival: Unmasking Louisiana Politics*

"An impressive collection of essays, written by individuals deeply knowledgeable about Louisiana politics and policy. This type of examination is much needed and long overdue."—**Kirby Goidel**, author of *America's Failing Experiment: How We the People Have Become the Problem*



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