Contents

Acknowledgments vii
Preface ix

I OVERVIEW 1

The Public Choice Revolution *Gwartney & Wagner* 3

II INSTITUTIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY 19

I RENT SEEKING 20

Is the Theory of Rent-Seeking Here to Stay? *Tollison* 24

Rent Seeking and Tax Reform *Tullock* 40

Rent Extraction and Rent Creation in the Economic Theory of Regulation *McChesney* 53

II COLLECTIVE ACTION 73

The Theory of Collective Action and Burden Sharing in NATO *Oneal* 77

The South Will Fall Again: The South as Leader and Laggard in Economic Growth *Olson* 100

III BUREAUCRACY 123

Are Bureaucrats Budget Maximizers? The Niskanen Model and Its Critics *Blais & Dion* 126

The Equilibrium Size of a Budget-maximizing Bureau: A Note on Niskanen's Theory of Bureaucracy *Breton & Wintrobe* 146

IV ELECTIONS AND THE ECONOMY 162

National Elections and Policy Induced Business Cycles: A Historical Perspective on the Literature *Soh* 165

Econometrics and Presidential Elections *Fair* 186

Taxes and the Electoral Cycle: How Sensitive Are Governors to Coming Elections? *Case* 201

III SOCIAL CHOICE THEORY 215

I CHOOSING DECISION RULES 216

Individual Choice in Voting and the Market *Buchanan* 219

Constitutional Design for a Rent-Seeking Society: Voting Rule Choice *Spindler* 232

Social Choice and Arrow's Paradox *MacKay* 242

II MAJORITY RULE 252

Collective Decision Rules and Local Debt Choice: A Test of the Median-Voter Hypothesis *McEachern* 255

The Strategy of Voting *Dixit & Nalebuff* 267

Probabilistic Majority Rule *Mueller* 288

III ALTERNATIVE VOTING PROCEDURES 305

An Introduction to Vote-Counting Schemes *Levin & Nalebuff* 308

An Application of Social Choice Theory to U.S.D.A. Forest Service Decision Making *Martin, Shields, Tolwinski, & Kent* 335

IV THE CALCULUS OF VOTING 354

Rational Choice and Turnout *Aldrich* 357

The Effect of the Secret Ballot on Voter Turnout Rates *Heckelman* 389

IV FINAL THOUGHTS 411

Is Public Choice Immoral? The Case for the "Nobel" Lie *Brennan & Buchanan* 413