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Contents Vol. 16, No. 1 2004

Articles

DONALD P. MOYNIHAN

Protection versus Flexibility: The Civil Service Reform Act, Competing Administrative Doctrines, and the Roots of the Contemporary Public Management Debate 1

JENNIFER KLEIN

The Politics of Economic Security: Employee Benefits and the Privatization of New Deal Liberalism 34

GUIAN McKEE

Urban Deindustrialization and Local Public Policy: Industrial Renewal in Philadelphia, 1953–1976 66

Review Essay

CHRISTOPHER P. LOSS

Party School: Education and Political Ideology in Cold War Eastern Europe 99

Journal of Policy History

The *Journal of Policy History* provides an interdisciplinary forum for scholars concerned with the application of historical perspectives to public policy studies. The journal aims to encourage research into the formation and development of public policy while encouraging the application of diverse methods and theories to public policy and their politics within a historical perspective. In addition to social scientists and historians, the journal seeks to inform policymakers through a historical approach to public policy.

The *Journal of Policy History* is intended to give voice to scholars interested in understanding public policies and their development through historical inquiry and interpretation. The journal publishes historical studies of specific policy areas and policy institutions, and explores continuities and shifts in policy over time. The journal encourages interdisciplinary research into the origins and development of public policy in the United States and other countries. Comparative historical approaches to the development of public policies are also welcomed.

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Thomas Krainz's article, "Transforming the Progressive-Era Welfare State: Activists for the Blind and Blind Benefits," which appeared in Volume 15, Issue 15.4, of the *Journal of Policy History*, has been selected as the 2003 Ray Allen Billington Prize sponsored by the Western History Association.

In recognition of the late Ray Allen Billington's leadership in the field of Western history, and of his services as the first president of the Western History Association, the Ray Allen Billington Prize was established to recognize the best article (an essay of 10,000 words or less) on Western history published in any journal other than the *Western Historical Quarterly*. The purpose of the award is to encourage authors and editors alike to seek excellence in the field of Western history.