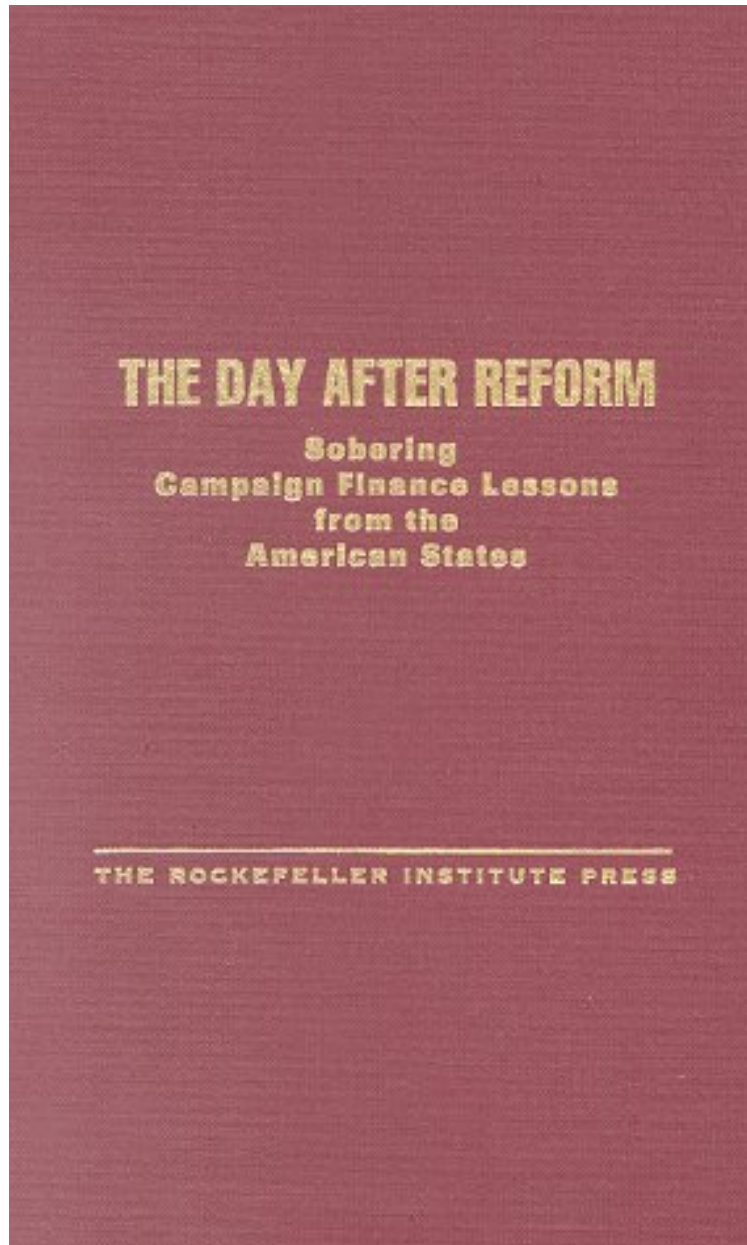



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## **The Day After Reform: Sobering Campaign Finance Lessons from the American States (Rockefeller Institute Press)**

*Michael J. Malbin, Thomas L. Gais*  
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This book in, or was, an important book. It offered a great deal of insight into the unintended consequences associated with trying to limit money's influence in American politics. Many of the efforts to reduce the role of money in politics have just forced contributors to become more creative in their efforts to circumvent their the law. This has, in many instances, created a cure worse than the disease. This book discusses the motives for the reform, and the logic motivating the choices selected by those driving the reform. Get it and learn why reform is unable to erase all evils.

For more than twenty-five years, campaign finance reform has been based on assumptions that no longer match the realities of modern campaigning. Despite this, many of the supposedly new proposals on the national agenda continue to be based on the old set of assumptions and to produce stalemate. However, even while Congress has deadlocked, more than half of the states have revised their laws on campaign finance. Some of these are now being promoted actively as models to be emulated. Michael J. Malbin and Thomas L. Gais look at the states to see how campaign finance reforms have actually worked out what has happened after candidates, political parties, and interest groups have had a chance to adapt to them. This book is based on a fifty-state survey of campaign finance laws and their administering agencies, analyses of reports from the states that release candidate-level data, and extensive open-ended interviews with political leaders in half a dozen jurisdictions with among the most ambitious regulatory frameworks. It concludes with recommendations based on realistic assumptions set in a package that is designed to remain workable over the long haul.

"The Day After Reform is a superb piece of work. The book makes its contributions in three distinct, though interrelated areas. First, it contains a careful compilation of data on state campaign finance experience. Second, it gives us probing analysis of the all-too-many false starts in public policy on campaign finance at the national and state level. Third, the authors offer a series of sound, carefully thought-out prescriptions about how to improve things." - Everett Carl Ladd, Executive Director, Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut  
"This is a splendid book-thorough, sound, and enormously valuable to anyone interested in campaign finance reform. To my knowledge, there is nothing to equal this analysis at the state level." - Alan Rosenthal, Professor of Political Science, Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University  
"The Day After Reform is at the cutting edge of the growing body of work on state campaign finance reforms. It surpasses all the current literature in this area by showing what happens after reforms are adopted and by highlighting the lessons that can be learned at the federal level from the recent experience in the states. It should be required reading for legislators, election officials, campaign finance activists, and all students of political finance." - Anthony Corrado, Associate Professor of Political Science, Colby College  
From the Publisher  
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About the Author  
Michael J. Malbin is the executive director of the Campaign Finance Institute and professor of political science at the State University of New York #151; Albany. His books include *The Election After Reform: Money, Politics and the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2006). Thomas L. Gais is director of the Rockefeller Institute of Government.