# CONTENTS

A list of illustrations.

*List of Illustrations*  ix

*Introduction*  1

1. The Lineage of American Legislatures  5

2. Fundamental Structures  35

3. Institutional Characteristics  67

4. Organizational Characteristics  99

5. Legislators and Legislative Careers  128

6. Concluding Thoughts on American Legislatures in Comparison  146

*Notes*  153

*References*  169

*Index*  193