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The Women s Joint Congressional Committee and the Politics of Maternalism, 1920-30 (Hardback)

By Jan Wilson

University of Illinois Press, United States, 2007. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 231 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. The rise and fall of a feminist reform powerhouse This is the first comprehensive history of the Women s Joint Congressional Committee (WJCC), a large umbrella organization founded by former suffrage leaders in 1920 in order to coordinate organized women s reform. Encompassing nearly every major national women s organization of its time, the WJCC evolved into a powerful lobbying force for the legislative agendas of twelve million women, and was recognized by critics and supporters alike as the most powerful lobby in Washington. Through a close examination of the WJCC s most consequential and contentious campaigns, Jan Doolittle Wilson demonstrates organized women s strategies and initial success in generating congressional and grassroots support for their far-reaching, progressive reforms. By using the WJCC as a lens through which to analyze women s political culture during the 1920s, the book also sheds new light on the initially successful ways women lobbied for social legislation, the inherent limitations of that process for pursuing class-based reforms, and the enormous difficulties faced by women trying to expand public responsibility for social welfare in...



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