The Effect of Citizen Input on State Legislator Decision-Making: Does Gender Matter?

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ABSTRACT This study is an attempt to determine the degree to which state legislators consider citizen input and opinion when making day-to-day policy decisions, based on numerous variables, including political party affiliation, tenure in office, full-time vs. part-time status, and especially gender. Ultimately, we found that none of these variables were significant predictors of consideration of citizen input—including gender—a conclusion that contradicts much of the prevailing literature on the subject.