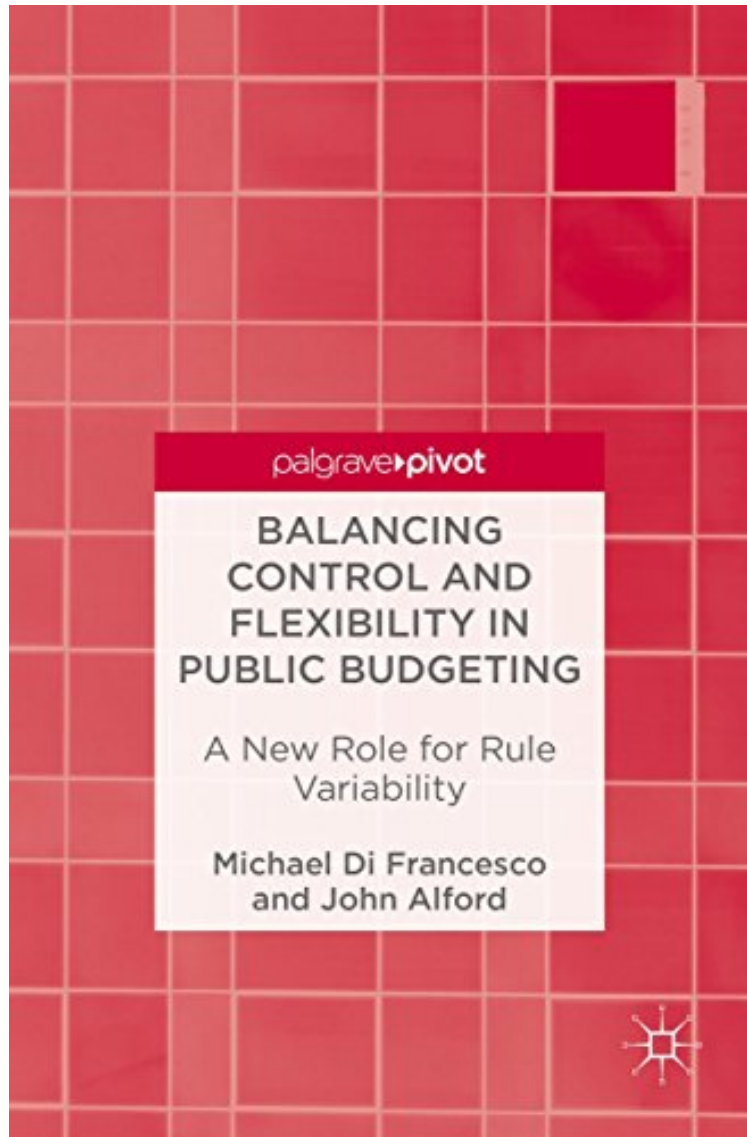


(Download) Balancing Control and Flexibility in Public Budgeting: A New Role for Rule Variability

# Balancing Control and Flexibility in Public Budgeting: A New Role for Rule Variability

*Michael Di Francesco, John Alford*  
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This work explores how reshaping budget rules and how they are applied presents a preferred means of public sector budgeting, rather than simply implementing fewer rules. Through enhanced approaches to resource flexibility, government entities can ensure that public money is used appropriately while achieving the desired results.

“The execution and management of budgets and public resources are among the most important but least understood aspects of public administration. This new assessment of public budgeting constitutes a path breaking framework to illuminate the trade-offs and consequences of various forms of budget flexibility for public accountability and efficiency. At a time of persistent austerity sweeping over fiscal systems throughout the world, such a framework is vital to help nations adjust to new rules and limits on budgetary resources imposed by publics, markets and multinational institutions.” (Professor Paul L. Posner, Director of the Centers on the Public Service, George Mason University, USA; Past President, American Society for Public Administration; author of *The Politics of Unfunded Mandates*) “This book breaks new ground in the theory and practice of flexible resourcing in the public sector. It offers a novel application of responsive regulatory approaches to the inner workings of government, and will undoubtedly influence the development of public management frameworks. Di Francesco and Alford take a fresh look at the costly ways entrenched budget rules exact control, and show how, if applied very differently, the same rules can deliver regulators with greater precision and service providers with expanded potentiality.” (Professor Gary Banks, Dean of the Australia and New Zealand School of Government; Chair of the Regulatory Policy Committee of the OECD; formerly Chairman of the Australian Productivity Commission) From the Back Cover Michael Di Francesco is an Associate Professor and Case Program Director at the Australia and New Zealand School of Government, and the School of Social Sciences, University of New South Wales (UNSW), Australia. He has held academic appointments at the Universities of Sydney and Melbourne, and Victoria University of Wellington, and expert advisory roles at the NSW Treasury, International Monetary Fund and World Bank.