DOCUMENTATION FOR DATASET CONTAINING POLICY SCORES

The file "policy scores.txt" contains the unfolded policy scores produced and explained in "A New Measure of Policy Spending Priorities in the American States," by William G. Jacoby and Saundra K. Schneider.

The file contains nine observations, one for each of the policy areas. There is one line of data per observation and adjacent values on each line are separated from each other by whitespace. On each line, the variables appear in the following order:

> Policy area (Character variable with embedded blanks, so values are enclosed in double quotation marks
>
> Policy score (Scores are normalized by the same transformation applied to the state policy priority scores contained in "state priority scores.txt". In the latter file, values are set to a mean of zero; units are proportions; the difference between any two values shows the difference in spending allocated to collective goods. The same transformation used there is applied to the "raw" state policy scores from the unfolding analysis. Negative policy scores correspond to particularized benefit policy areas and positive scores are collective goods.

Questions about this dataset should be directed to William G. Jacoby (`jacoby@msu.edu`) or Saundra K. Schneider (`sks@msu.edu`).