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Tucson Time Capsule : 'Motor voter' law a hit in 1983

On the first day of Arizona's new "motor voter" law, March 29, 1983, 87 new voters registered to vote when they applied for a driver's license. The new law, approved by voters in 1982, mandated that people applying for licenses be given an opportunity to register to vote. Some Republicans feared that the new procedure would benefit Democrats, but at least on the first day that was not the case. Republicans outregistered Democrats 28-22, but independents and other parties topped both of them with 37 registrations. At the Motor Vehicle Division's East 22nd Street location, Lupe Vidal helped John Slacks register to vote.

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