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INDEPENDENCE, Iowa (AP) — Officials at Tyson Pet Products say they hope to decide soon whether to expand operations in Independence and add more than 100 full-time jobs. The Iowa Economic Development Authority Board awarded tax incentives about a month ago for the proposed project, and the city of Independence gave its official backing of the plan on Monday night.

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Iowa drivers will be able to renew their driver's licenses online under a bill signed into law by Governor Terry Branstad yesterday. It allows drivers between 18 and 72 to renew their driver's licenses through the state Department of Transportation's website without passing a vision test. The bill also extends the time licenses are valid from five years to eight years.

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — The Iowa Legislature has approved a $41 million compromise economic development budget. The House and Senate both easily approved the plan yesterday. The budget next goes to the governor.

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Iowa legislators have approved a compromise budget plan for the state justice system. Yesterday lawmakers in the state House and Senate approved $547 million in spending that largely goes to prisons and public safety. The budget plan is an increase over the spending in the current fiscal year. It is more than the $534 million proposed by the House and less than the $560 million pushed by the Senate.

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