

QC offers audit-free option for businesses

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QUEZON CITY has given an additional option to tax payers regarding the audit and examination of their book of accounts for 2016 to 2018.

Pursuant to City Ordinance No. SP- 2780, it provides the option of paying 30 percent higher of tax payment to encourage taxpayers to declare more taxable gross receipts, and at the same time to simplify the procedures in the payment of business taxes.

“This ordinance will make Quezon City a premiere business haven for investors because we are giving an option to them whether they want their books [of accounts] to be reviewed or not,” said Vice Mayor **Joy Belmonte**. “If they don’t want, they can just pay additional 30 percent, and they will be exempted from further auditing.”

Belmonte also clarifies that no tax increase has been implemented, contrary to some claims that the said ordinance directs a mandatory 30 percent increase to all business tax payers. Meanwhile, due to the city’s lack of data, Quezon City Vice Mayor Belmonte prioritizes collecting comprehensive records on health, livelihood, education, and other concerns of the city locals to determine the areas that require further attention from the city government.

“I have mentioned several times that we need more data on different areas for us to find out the issues that require more attention; I observe that it is what we lack as of the moment that’s why we can’t pinpoint which aspects should we prioritize,” Belmonte said. “Without accurate data, it is hard to create projects we are supposed to give to the public.”