

Non-teaching workers in QC get longevity pay

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by **Rio N. Araja**

The 37-member Quezon City council has passed on third and final reading a proposed ordinance granting a P400 longevity pay for non-teaching personnel in all public schools in the city's six legislative districts every five years.

In an interview, District 1 Councilor **Victor Ferrer Jr.** said the city government has expanded such benefit to cover Districts 1 to 6 and "to look after the welfare of the non-teaching personnel."

Apart from the teachers, those to benefit from the measure are "low key" personnel, such as gardeners, janitors, drivers, and librarians, he said. "Before, I authored a measure granting a P400 longevity pay to non-teaching personnel only from District 1. The new measure shall now benefit all of them from the six districts," the councilor told Manila Standard. "Just recently, I authored an ordinance to increase the longevity pay of public school teachers from P100 to P400," Ferrer said.

The measure passed on third and final reading was forwarded to the Office of the Mayor for approval "three weeks ago," he said. However, Ferrer said city administrator Aldrin Cuña called his attention, asking him to include non-teaching personnel in the provision of the P400 longevity pay. "So I filed an amendatory ordinance," he said. "You see, we have non-teaching employees under the city's school division office who have been working for 30 years or more, and yet they do not get anything for their dedication and loyalty," he said. "We are sensitive and compassionate when we talk about those in the education sector, including the children," Ferrer said.