QC-based businesses to enjoy triple tax relief

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Triple tax relief awaits Quezon City-based businesses next year after the Quezon City Council approved three ordinances providing them much-needed respite and room to recover from the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. City Ordinance SP-3067, S-2021 extends the deadline for the payment of business taxes, fees and charges without surcharges or interest from 20 January 2022 (first quarter) and 20 March 2022 (second quarter) to 20 July 2022. "As the economy gradually opens, some businesses that are heavily affected by the pandemic are still struggling on their way to recovery and we, in the city government, want to help them in as many ways as we can, and passing this tax relief ordinance is just one of them," Quezon City Mayor Joy Belmonte said.

The ordinance aims to provide tax relief to business owners affected by the several lockdowns implemented during the community quarantine.

The City Council presided by Vice Mayor Gian Sotto also passed City Ordinance SP-3068, S-2021, which seeks to waive penalties, surcharges and interest for unpaid business taxes for 2021 and prior years. It will cover all businesses that failed to pay any business tax for 2021 and prior years.

This will allow taxpayers to update their business tax and liabilities without incurring any penalties, interest and surcharge.

The third measure, City Ordinance SP-3069 S-2021, will allow the staggered settlement of outstanding business taxes up to a maximum of 12 months installment covering the year 2021 and prior years. Under the measure, the City Treasurer is tasked to determine the manner or frequency of payment of outstanding tax balances.

Majority Leader Franz Pumaren said, "The Quezon City government recognizes the business owners' financial sacrifices in order to keep their operations going, thus providing employment to QCitizens and residents of other cities and provinces who continue to depend on such businesses for their livelihood."

All ordinances were introduced by Councilors Pumaren, Jun Ferrer, Eric Medina and Donny Matias, and co-introduced by other members of the Sangguniang Panlungsod

These ordinances are expected to be signed by Belmonte before the year ends.