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Belmonte signs guidelines on nano-enterprises

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QUEZON City Mayor Joy Belmonte announced on Sunday that she has signed an ordinance fixing the guidelines for the registration of nano-enterprises that would streamline regulatory processes and facilitate easier compliance with local regulations.

Known as the “Quezon City NanoEnterprises Registration Ordinance of 2024,” it defines nano-enterprises as livelihoods operated by self-employed individuals or sole proprietorships with an asset size not exceeding P50,000 and gross sales or receipts not exceeding P250,000.

“As a way of recognizing the vital role that nano-entrepreneurs play in our local communities, including sari-sari (convenience) stores, carinderias (eateries) and beneficiaries of the Pangkabuhayan (Livelihood) QC Assistance Program, we will provide them with the necessary support to thrive,” Belmonte said in a statement emailed to The Manila Times. The city’s Business Permit and Licensing Department (BPLD) said the measure is a testament to the local government’s commitment to supporting nano-enterprises amid economic challenges.

“In times of crisis, such as natural disasters or public health emergencies, the registration process will help us quickly identify and extend assistance to affected nano-enterprises,” Margie Mejia, BPLD head, said.

Its principal authors, Councilors Candy Medina and Dorothy Delarmente, said the ordinance will limit the documentary requirements for nano-enterprises for new and renewal business permit applications.

Nano-enterprises such as convenience stores, eateries and beneficiaries of the Pangkabuhayan QC Assistance Program would also be exempted from paying local business taxes and regulatory fees, they said.

After completing the registration process, they will also be given priority consideration for financial assistance programs offered by the city and national governments, including grants, subsidies, loans, and other forms of financial aid.

The registration of nano-enterprises through BPLD’s online business permit application system was officially launched last Aug. 9, 2024.