

- Food—caloric content

QC gov't set to implement calorie count

Manila Standard · 31 Jan 2025 · A4 · By Rio N. Araja

QUEZON City Mayor Joy Belmonte has signed the implementing rules and regulations of an ordinance requiring restaurants, fast food chains, and other eateries to put calorie count on menus effective Dec. 20 this year.

At a media briefing, Belmonte said a one-year grace period is given not only to the food shops but everybody before the city government would strictly implement the measure.

“This is a holistic approach,” the mayor said.

She said the grace period would give the food establishments a clear timeline and guidelines to comply with Ordinance SP-3254 or the Quezon City Calorie Labeling Ordinance, as well as the schools, barangays and the other stakeholders to adopt the measure and for the city government to prepare for strict and proper implementation of the fiat.

Even concerned city personnel will be trained on how to validate calorie count and properly implement the ordinance, Belmonte noted.

The city government has launched an intensive information drive to heighten public awareness about the importance of knowing how much calories does a food item contain.

“We are empowering our QCitizens to have their informed decisions about their health,” Belmonte said.

The initiative underscored the city government’s commitment to improve the health of its citizens and to save lives through the prevention of non-communicable diseases.