(c) The county may change the index to be used in adjusting the pension payments and to determine the method of conveying previous adjustments to the new index. (Bill No. 54-68, Sec. 1.)

## Section 14-306

- Election. In lieu of having his pension payable under the normal annuity form and provided an election under subsection (e) (3) of section 14-303 has not been made, a participant If the participant at the time of his retirement does not have an eligible lawful spouse or child or children under eighteen (18) years of age, he may elect to receive pension benefits of actuarially equivalent value under the contingent annuitant option by filing written notice thereof with the personnel officer prior to his early retirement date or normal retirement date, whichever first occurs. If the election of this optional form is in effect on the participant's early retirement date or normal retirement date, whichever first occurs, the participant will receive a reduced amount of pension benefits during his lifetime and following his death a pension benefit will be continued and paid for life to his [wife or other named] contingent annuitant, if surviving, in the same reduced amount (or sixty-six and two-thirds per cent of fifty per cent thereof if so specified in the election); provided, however, that if the participant should die during the five year period immediately following his date of retirement any pension payments which become payable to the contingent annuitant during the balance of the five year period will be in the same yearly amount as the pension payments which were payable to the participant. The election of the contingent annuitant option shall be subject to the following terms and provisions in the event of the death of either the participant or his contingent annuitant:
- (1) If the participant or contingent annuitant dies before the earlier of the participant's early retirement date or normal retirement date, the option shall be void.
- (2) If the contingent annuitant dies on or after the participant's normal retirement date, but before the day he actually retires, the pension payable to the participant upon his actual retirement shall be in the same amount as it would have been if the contingent annuitant option had not been elected.
- **[**(3) If, upon the death of the contingent annuitant who was receiving payments under this option there is a surviving unmarried child or children under the age of eighteen years, payments in the same amount which had been payable to the contingent annuitant will become payable to such child or children commencing with the first day of the month following the contingent annuitant's death. Such payments will be payable to such children as a group, each such child becoming ineligible to receive any part of the payment upon attaining his eighteenth birthday or upon marriage, whichever first occurs. As of the date all the participant's unmarried children attain their eighteenth birthday, no further benefits will be payable. The provisions of this subparagraph (3) shall not be considered in determining the actuarial equivalent value of the pension benefits payable to the participant or his contingent annuitant.

## Section 14-308

- (a) Death benefits before retirement. If a participant's death occurs:
  - (1) Prior to his date of retirement, or