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Sirhan Parole Officials Out

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Two members of the state parole board whose decision to set a release date for Sirhan Sirhan caused a furor were replaced yesterday by Governor Brown.

All concerned were quick to say that the action was not punitive.

Brown appointed Robert E. Burton, the brother of San Francisco's two Democratic congressmen, to replace Manuel Quevedo Jr. of San Bernardino.

N. A. Chaderjian of Fresno will succeed James H. Hoover of Placerville.

Each of the nine members of the Adult Authority, as the parole board is called, receives \$31,008 a year.

Last May, Hoover and Quevedo granted a parole date of Feb. 23, 1966, to Shirhan, who was serving a life sentence in San Quentin Prison for the assassination of U.S. Senator Robert F. Kennedy in June, 1968.

Hoover and Quevedo were acting under new Adult Authority procedures to set tentative Parole dates for almost all convicts in the California prison system.

Burton and Chaderjian will be working with the same policies, and it is understood that they were carefully screened by Brown himself.

Quevedo's term expired last March, and he was continuing to serve at the pleasure of the governor when he and Hoover set Sirhan's parole date.

Hoover resigned in November — although it was not widely known until yesterday — to accept a civil service position as one of the parole board's 31 hearing representatives.

Reached at Soledad Prison yesterday, he said his reasons for resigning were "more personal" than anything else.

Asked if the Sirhan furor had anything to do with it, he said:

"A lot of people had speculated that. There is absolutely no truth to that. I still today think that it was a good decision and I will till my dying day."

Public outrage was widespread. The most bitter denunciation of the parole system came from State Treasurer Jesse Unruh, who was with Kennedy the night he was fatally shot.

Burton, 47, lives in San Francisco. He has taught at San Quentin for the past 18 years.

Chaderjian, 48, has served for the past decade as a deputy probation officer and Superior Court liaison in Fresno county.