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Link to Project Github: <https://github.com/sbaluja/LegalResearchAssistant>

Project Name: Intelligent Legal Research Assistant

1. Brief Explanation of Project:

I have built a full-stack web application that leverages Metaphor's API to help legal practitioners in North America research and find case law in an efficient and simpler way than they do currently. I've always thought the legal field has been behind in technology, and that was further affirmed when my sister became a lawyer and had trouble finding relevant cases for her legal matters.

The project provides relevant cases for the search query by searching legal databases, and uses Open AI's GPT-Turbo model to summarize the contents of the resulting cases found.

****Please follow the Readme instructions to run the project****

2. How you Built it:

Nothing too fancy as I wanted to stay within the 1-3 hour range. A simple one-page frontend built with 'Vanilla' JS and a simple backend Node server. The frontend and backend communicate using Axios, and the Node server uses Metaphor API's search and contents endpoints to perform search queries and get the contents of the cases. The contents of the cases are then fed through the OpenAI API to display a human-readable summary of the case rather than HTML content. The search query uses the 'include domains' option to only search country-specific legal databases depending on the country the user has selected - meaning different domains will be included depending on the country.

3. Challenges/Feedback on the API:

I ran into some trouble when including domains that were not the base domains. I also ran into some trouble with the <https://cite.case.law/> domain,

as some search results were 'bad links' such as this:

<https://cite.case.law/set-cookie/?next=%2Ff-cas%2F22%2F939%2F>.

In my experience with testing, the Metaphor search query excels at searching the Canadian database, but is not as accurate with the American databases. This could also be because I have not chosen the right databases for the USA legal system, as since I live in Canada I'm unsure if the USA has a federal database of legal cases so I included domains I thought serve that purpose.

Overall it was a pleasant experience developing and integrating with Metaphor's API. The only feedback I have is that I'd like to see the option for using the document id as a parameter for the find similar endpoint rather than solely URL.

4. Why you're interested in Metaphor :)

The vision of a search engine with enhanced capabilities is both innovative and inspiring. I firmly believe that such advancements can reshape the way we perceive and interact with information, improving methods of knowledge acquisition and analysis, and I'd love to be a part of the change.

Also, I like how the live-chat says 'Wassup', that kind of snowballed my interest too.