

> git log --graph constitution

Tracking changes in the US Constitution using a Git graph

> man git

What is git?

Git is a [free and open source](#) distributed version control system. While its collaboration features are often in focus due to GitHub, and original and essential feature is its **“version control” capabilities**.

Git's version control features **allows tracking changes in a text document as it evolves; it tracks deletions, additions**, and even follows separate silos in which **draft is being developed via “branches”**.

The term **“branches”** reveals how Git visualises the changing text: in **tree graphs** and **more specifically a “directed acyclic graph”**.

Each node represents a ‘commit’, version in time of the text - with major changes being developed in a separate branch, and then **‘pushed back’ into the main branch** as a new **‘commit’**.

> grep constitution *

Why track the Constitution?

The **United States of America's Constitution** is the oldest written and currently active constitution in the world.

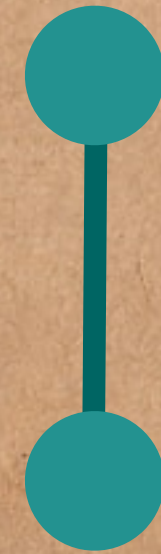
It is the supreme law of the land, and defines the structure of the government and the limitations imposed on it by way of rights that it enshrines to its citizens.

It remains one of the most consequential documents in history and has inspired many subsequent similar documents in countries across the world.

Domestically, however, it was a contentious exercise since its inception and it has only become more politically charged. **The country remains sharply divided as to what it *meant* then and what it *means* today.**

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How to track the Constitution?



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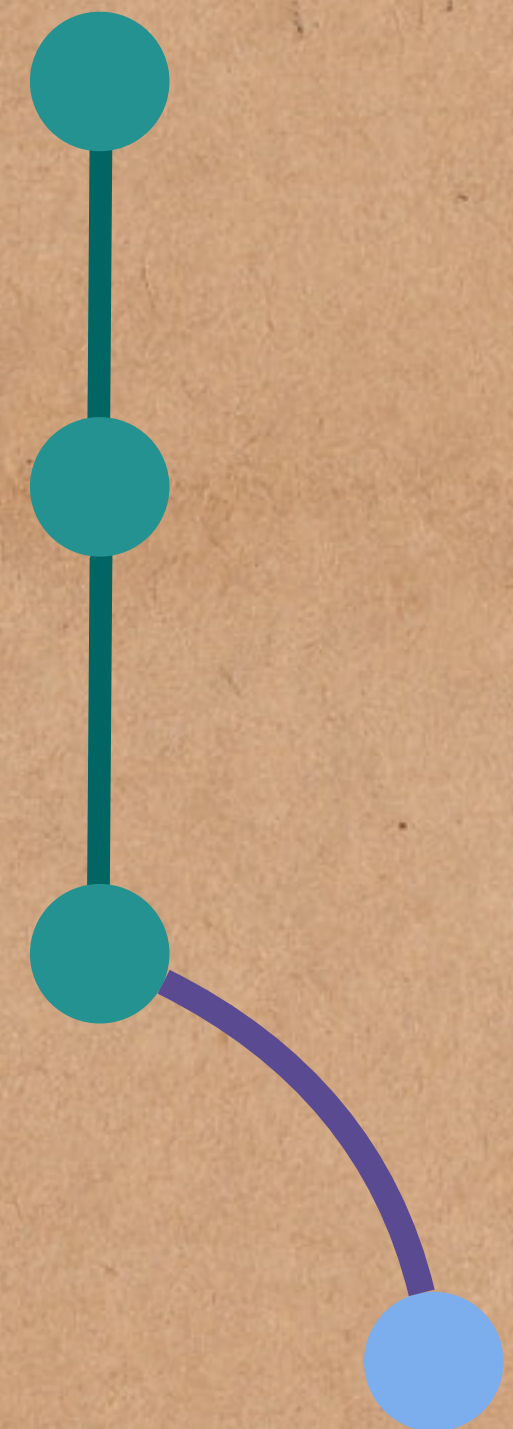
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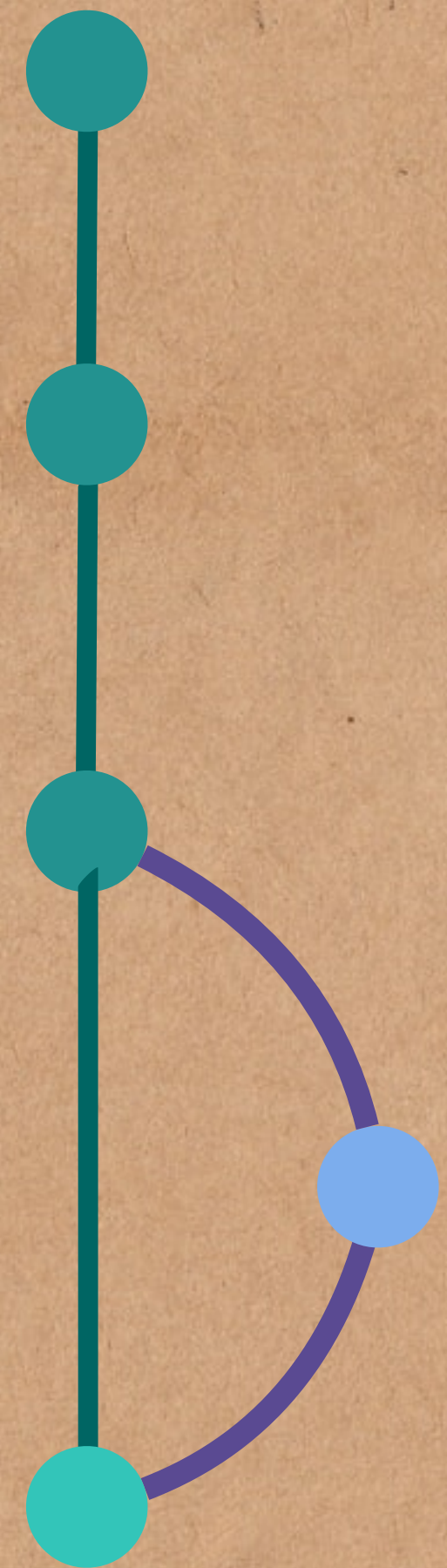
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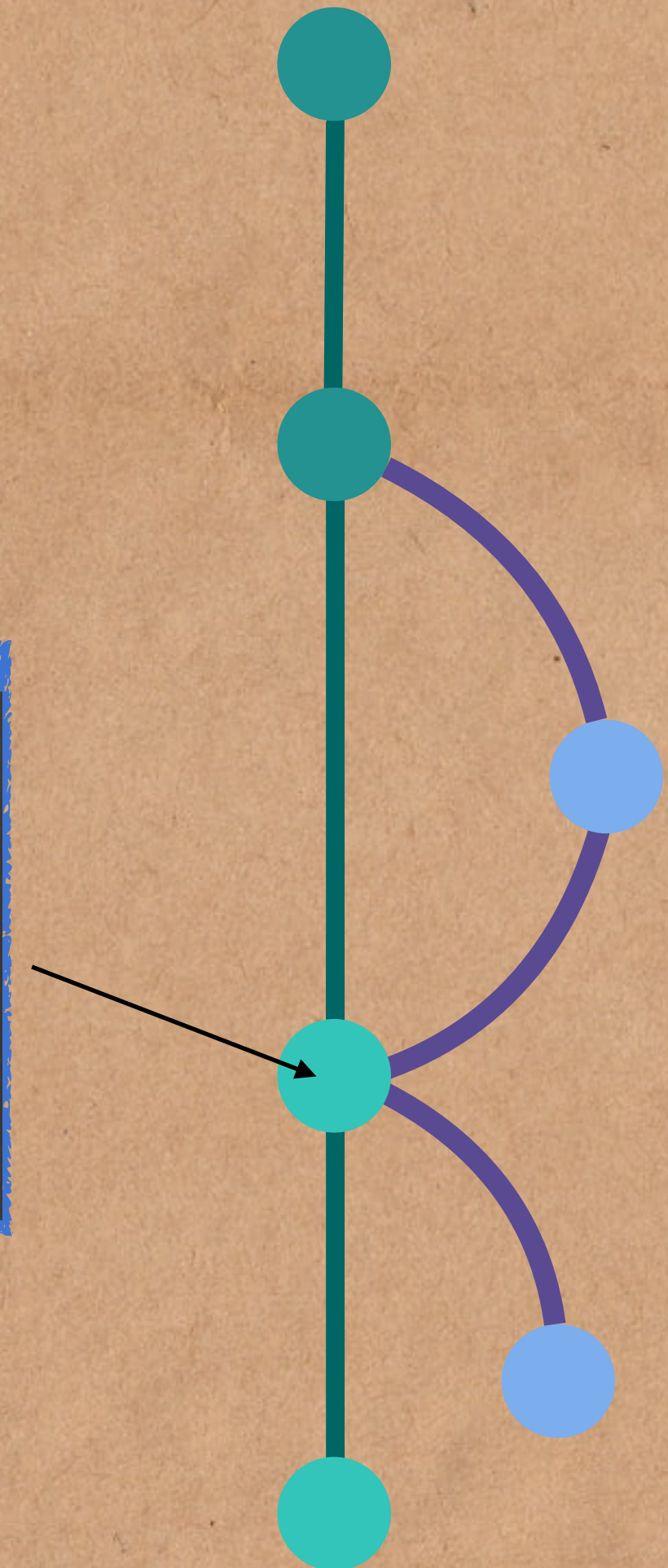
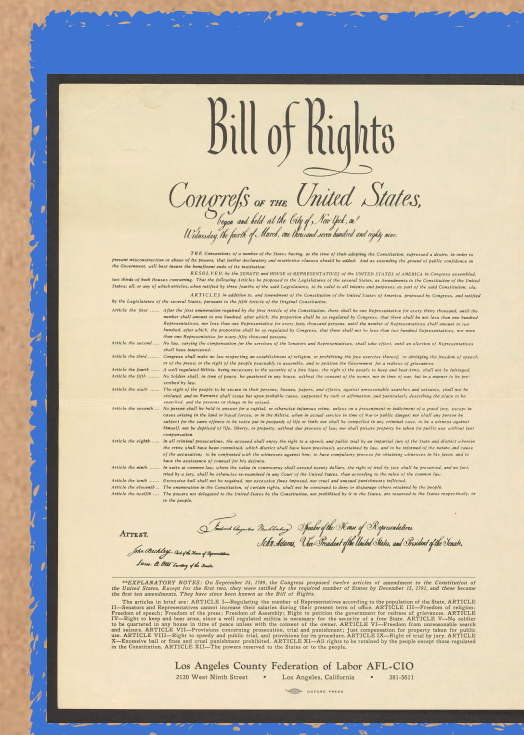
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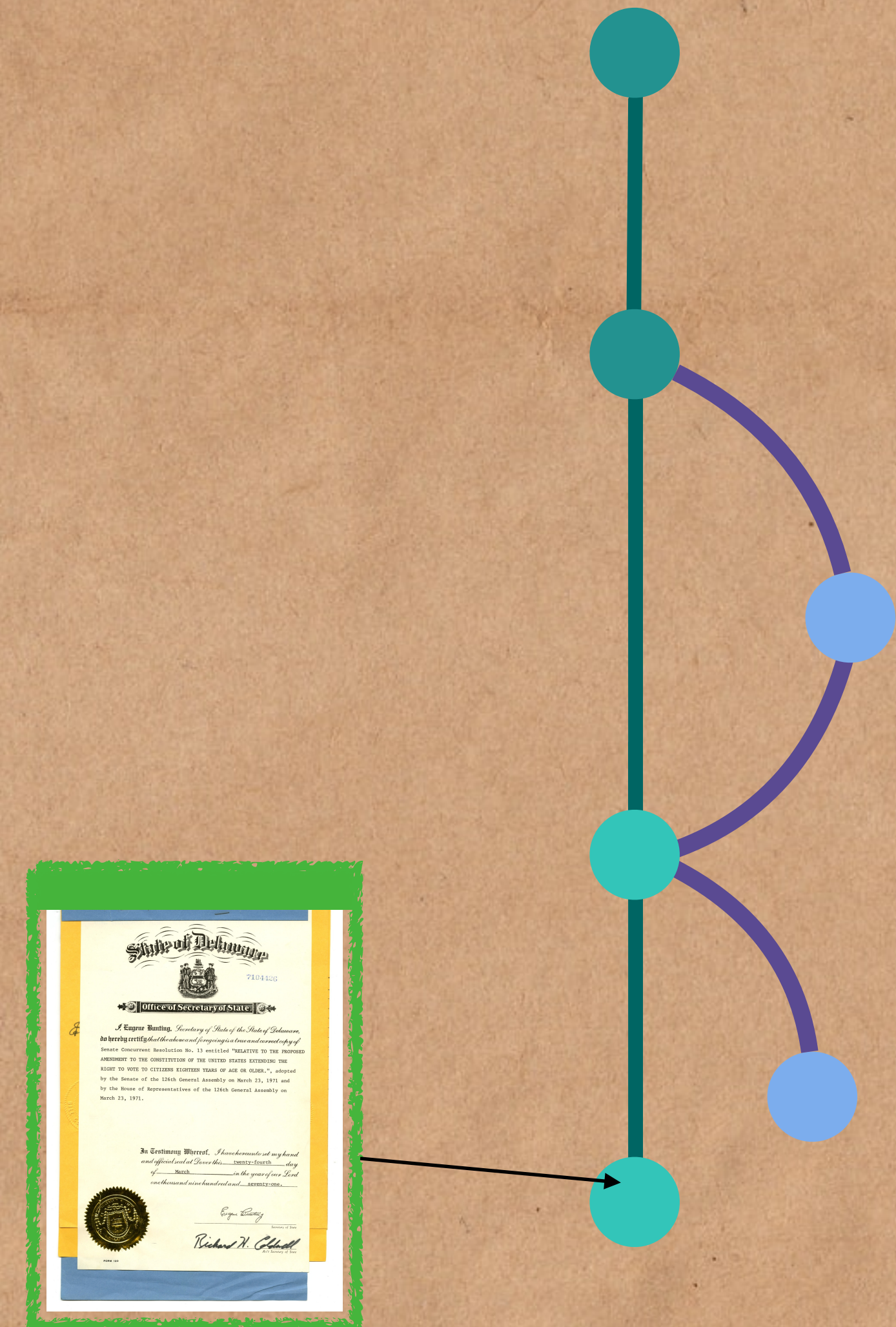
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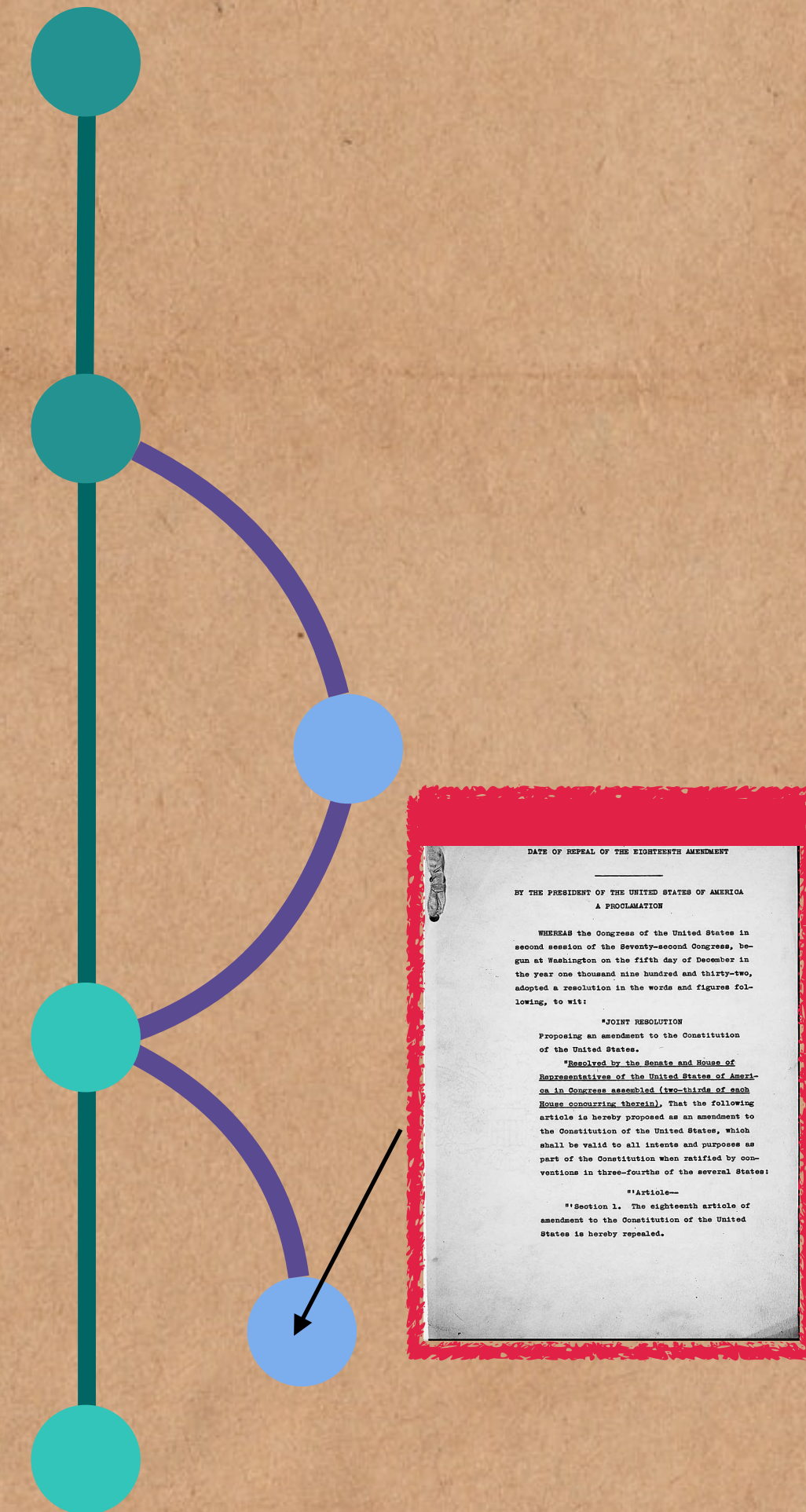
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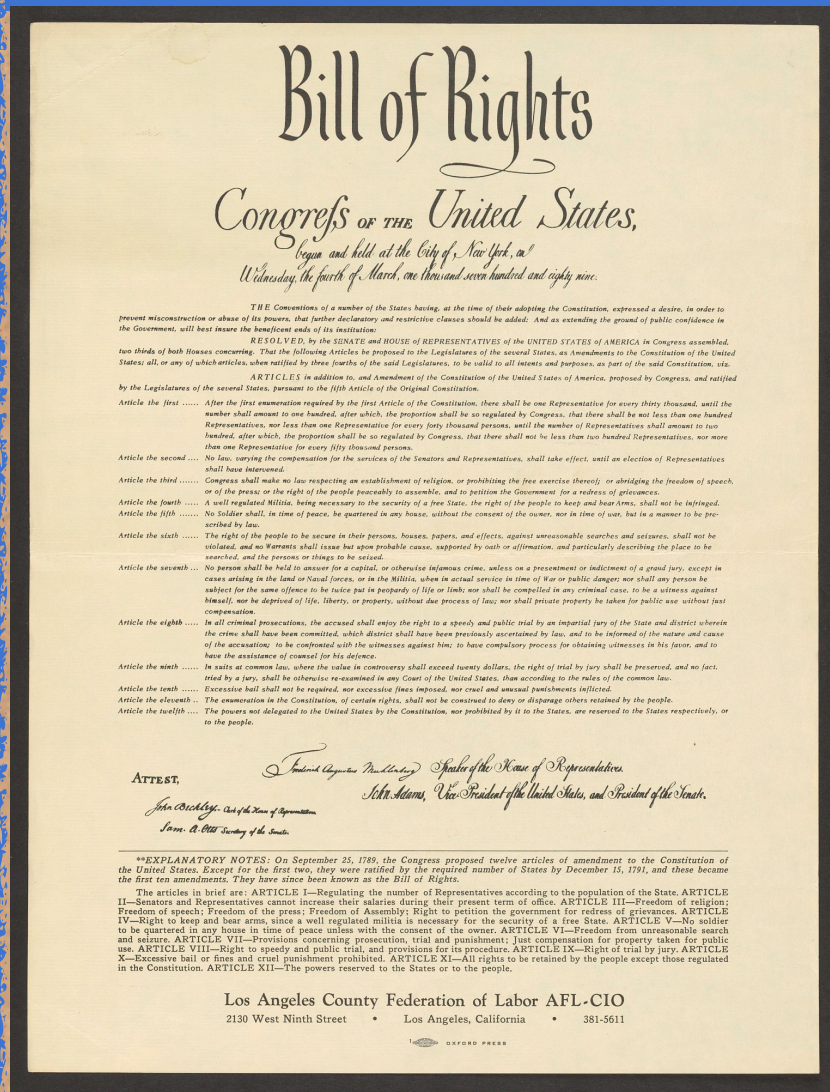
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Tooltips over the commit nodes - mockups

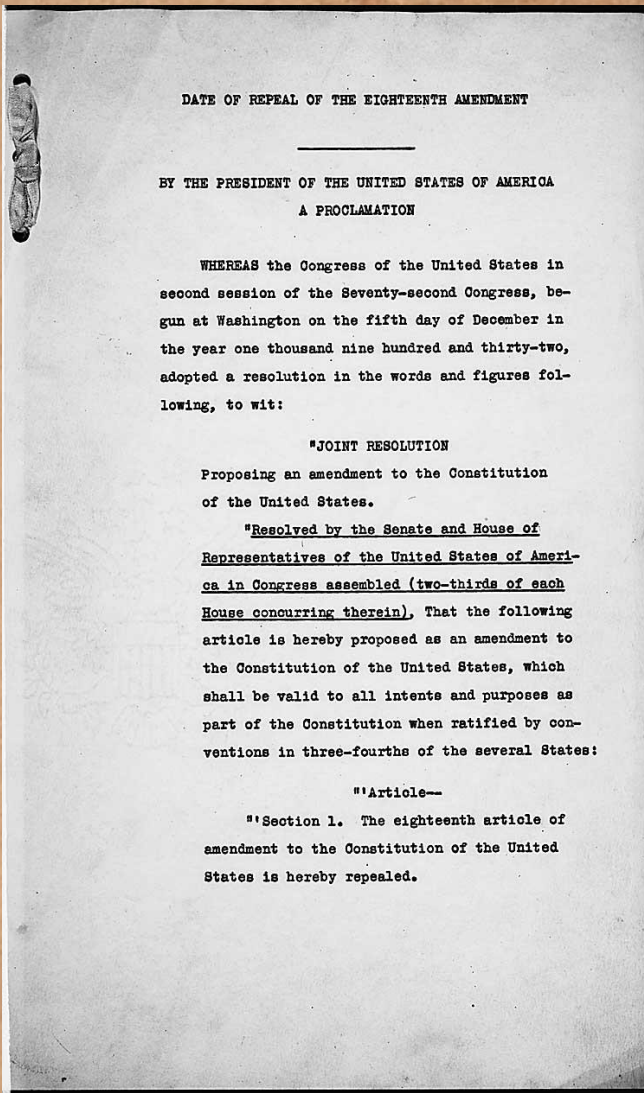
Annotations



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Deletions

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Additions

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