

**REPUBLICA DEMOCRATICA DE TIMOR-LESTE**

**NATIONAL PARLIAMENT**

**PROPOSED LAW**

**INTERPRETATION OF ARTICLE 1 OF LAW 2/2002 OF 7 AUGUST AND  
SOURCES OF LAW**

Legal interpretation based solely on the words, made without taking into account the context and the system, extracted from reality and in violation of the most elementary rules of legal interpretation, results in an absurd situation, which can challenge the stability of the country as it tends to provoke institutional crisis, which in another form would not have existed.

Being this, the National Parliament decrees, in terms of article 95, paragraph 1 and article 165 of the Constitution of the Republic, the following with force of law:

**Article One**

**Authentic Interpretation**

It is understood as the law in force in Timor-Leste on 19 May 2002, in terms of article 1 of Law 2/2002 of 7 August, as every Indonesian law which was applied and was '*de facto*' in force in East Timor, before the 25 October 1999 in terms of UNTAET Regulation 1/1999.

**Article 2**

**Sources of Law**

1. Laws are the only immediate source of law in Timor-Leste.
2. Laws are the generic disposition emanated from competent organs from the State;
3. In Timor-Leste, the sources of law are:
  - a) The Constitution of the Republic;
  - b) The laws promulgated by the National Parliament and the Government;
  - c) Supplementary, the regulations and other legal documents from UNTAET, while not revoked, as well as the Indonesian Laws in terms of article 1 of this Law.

**Article 3**

**Effect**

This present law has effect from 20 May 2002

Dili, 29<sup>th</sup> July 2003

The Proposing Deputies:

1. Francisco Branco
2. Mariano Sabino
3. Rui Meneses
4. Feliciano A. Fatima
5. Pedro Gomes
6. Pedro M. Costa
7. Adaljiza Magno
8. Aires Francisco Cabral
9. Carlos de A. S.

*This is not an official document.*

*It is an English translation by JSMP of the original Portuguese document.*