

## New Physics

A major research institution has recently announced the discovery of the two heaviest elements yet known. The first, "Governmentium," has one neutron, 12 assistant neutrons, 35 deputy neutrons, and 72 assistant deputy neutrons, giving it an atomic mass of 120.

Those particles are held together by forces called morons, which are surrounded by vast quantities of lepton-like particles called peons. Since Governmentium has no electrons, it is inert.

It can nevertheless be detected because it impedes every reaction with which it comes into contact. A minute amount of Governmentium can cause reactions to take days to complete, that might otherwise occur within minutes.

Governmentium has a short half-life but does not decay as, every two to four years, it undergoes a rebirth reaction.

In fact, Governmentium's mass actually increases over time: Each rebirth will cause more morons to become neutrons, forming isodopes. This characteristic of moron promotion leads some scientists to believe that Governmentium is formed whenever morons reach a hypothetical concentration referred to as "Critical Morass."

When catalyzed with money, Governmentium can become "Administratium" - a slightly heavier, equally inert, element that impedes reactions more effectively because it has more morons and peons.

[Adapted from one of many variations — others are on the Internet.]